



**"LET'S KEEP YOUR CHILD'S  
smile...  
one TOOTH AT A TIME!"**

**~ PEDIATRIC DEPT.**



**SMILEKRAFTERS**  
WE'RE ALL HERE FOR YOU

www.smilekrafters.com  
1247 South Cedar crest  
Blvd.  
Suite 300  
Allentown, PA 18103  
610-628-1228



# SMILEKRAFTERS

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## dental RECORD BOOK



name \_\_\_\_\_

date of BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_





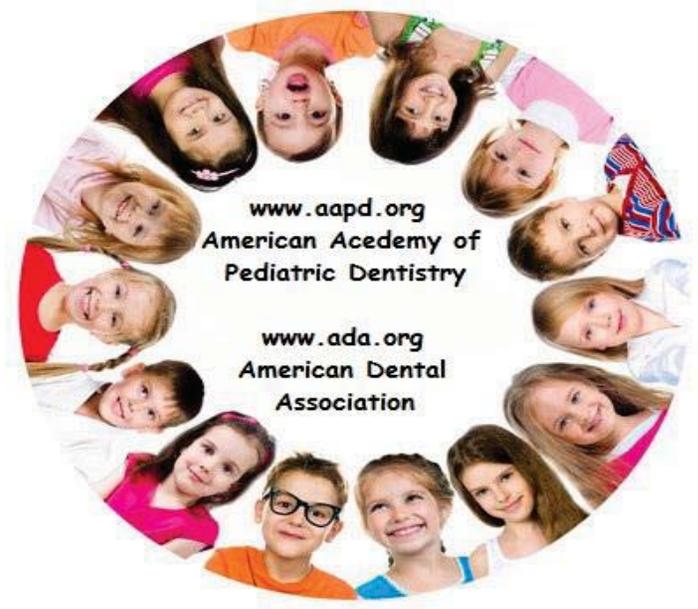
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We don't usually think of a newborn as having teeth. However, at the crowns of the 20 "baby" or primary teeth are almost completely formed, and they are hidden from view in an infant's jawbones. The primary teeth gradually erupt through the gums during the first 2 1/2 years of life. The four front teeth - two upper and two lower - usually erupt first, beginning as early as six months after birth. Most children have a full set of primary teeth by the time they are 3 years old. The child's jaws continue to grow, making room for the permanent (adult) teeth that will begin to erupt at about age 6 years. Primary teeth begin to shed between ages 6 and 7 years. This process continues until about age 12 years.

The chart and photograph identify the names of the primary teeth and provide the approximate ages at which you can expect the teeth to erupt and shed. Primary teeth may be temporary, but they deserve good care. A child needs strong, healthy primary teeth not only to chew food easily, but to pronounce words properly. This first set of teeth also holds a place in the jaw for the permanent teeth, which move into place as the primary teeth are shed.

Primary teeth should be kept clean and healthy so that a child can remain free of cavities, oral pain and infection. Wipe your child's gums with a wet washcloth or a clean gauze pad after each feeding. Begin brushing your child's teeth with a little water as soon as the first tooth appears. Parents and other caregivers may not realize first teeth are susceptible to decay as soon as teeth appear in the mouth. Supervise tooth brushing. Tooth decay in infants and toddlers is sometimes called early childhood caries, baby bottle tooth decay or nursing mouth syndrome. Use only a pea sized amount of fluoride toothpaste and avoid swallowing it. Children should be taught to spit out remaining toothpaste and rinse with water after brushing.

## RESOURCES



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