

FROM THE EXAMINATION AND RADIOGRAPHS, WE HAVE DETERMINED THAT YOUR CHILD NEEDS THE FOLLOWING DENTAL TREATMENT TO ACHIEVE DENTAL HEALTH:

- CLEANING AND FLUORIDE  
Your child's teeth will be cleaned to remove plaque and calculus (bacteria) that can cause gum disease and tooth decay. Topical fluoride will be applied to the teeth to make them stronger and more resistant to tooth decay. A thorough cleaning and fluoride treatment every six months has been shown to be an extremely effective way to prevent dental disease.
- SEALANTS  
The chewing surfaces of children's teeth are the most susceptible to cavities and least benefited by fluorides. Sealants are applied to the tops or chewing surfaces of back teeth and are highly effective in preventing tooth decay. Sealants last generally 3-5 years. Dietary habits such as chewing ice or hard candy can shorten the life expectancy of a sealant. No numbing is required to place them.
- TOOTH COLORED FILLINGS  
Tooth colored fillings are used to restore front or back teeth or where cosmetic appearance is important. Tooth colored fillings are used to repair fractured teeth and/or areas of decay. The shade of the restorative material is matched as closely as possible to the color of the natural teeth.
- SILVER FILLINGS  
Silver fillings are used to restore or "fill" decay in teeth. A tooth has five surfaces (the chewing surface and four sides). The decay may involve any or all of these surfaces.
- STAINLESS STEEL CROWNS  
Stainless steel crowns are used to restore back teeth that are too badly decayed to hold silver or white fillings.
- PULP TREATMENT  
Pulp treatment is necessary when decay has spread to the nerve of the tooth. The procedure consists of treating the nerve to avoid extracting the tooth.
- DISKING  
Disking of primary laterals and canines is a way of gaining space for erupting permanent teeth. This helps the teeth to align more properly by slenderizing primary teeth.
- EXTRACTIONS  
Extractions are done only as a last resort. If a primary molar is removed prematurely, a space maintainer will be placed. Some extractions are needed for orthodontic reasons to help facilitate tooth alignment.
- SPACE MAINTAINERS  
Space maintainers are used when a primary tooth has been prematurely lost to hold space for the permanent tooth. If space is not maintained, teeth on either side of the extraction site can drift into the space and prevent the permanent tooth from erupting.
- NITROUS OXIDE/OXYGEN  
Nitrous oxide (laughing gas) is breathed by your child during the appointment. It is used to relax a mildly anxious child.
- CONSCIOUS SEDATION  
A sedative medication is used to help a child deal with anxiety or cooperation problems during office treatment. The child should feel sleepy but it does not put your child to sleep. Some children can experience an excitatory phase from the medication when they begin to feel it's affects.
- HOSPITAL TREATMENT  
Complete dental treatment in one visit while your child is asleep has been recommended. This approach is felt the best when you consider the factors of your child's age, anxiety level, extensive treatment needs, and emotional well-being.