New Patient Letter to Parents

Thanks for making an appointment with our office! I am glad that you are interested in your child’s dental health and that is great!

You play an important role in preparing your child for his/her first visit to us. The first visits to the dentist may be the most important in your child’s life so we ask that you help by reinforcing our role as a “tooth doctor” who works to keep teeth healthy and happy. Be relaxed and at ease with your child. Your child will sense any anxiety on your part. Tell your child that we will “count” and “take pictures” of his teeth, and then talk afterwards about it. “Don’t overdo it!” Don’t use words that may create fear in your child such as “hurt, shot, drill X-ray, or needle.” Don’t relate any negative experiences you may have had as a child and don’t let other people tell your child stories that may provoke fear.

We are specially trained to handle children and I’ve been doing so for over 20 years. We know how to make the experience pleasant for the child. Rest assured we would treat your child as gently as we would treat our own.

We will explain our procedures to your child in easy, understandable terms before we do it. Remember, we are pediatric dentists, and children are our only patients – first class citizens in our office.

At this first visit we will answer any questions you may have and do a comprehensive examination of your child’s mouth. Your child’s bite (occlusion) will also be evaluated. Usually, we will clean a child’s teeth at this first visit. We will apply a special type of topical fluoride (vitamins) depending on your child’s age, and the need for X-rays (tooth pictures) will be determined on an individual basis.

We also have some of the greatest toys, bracelets and bouncy balls in the Triad!
Your aim as a parent and ours as a dentist are the same:

*To keep your child’s teeth and mouth in good health and to make the process “painless” for child, parent, and dentist!*

Now here’s the answer to the question that you’ve been asking…

**What if my Child Crys?**

Crying is a normal reaction to almost any kind of anxiety in a young child. New experiences, strange people and places fit in that category for the very young. Even Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny can make for a very nervous response. Please do not let your child’s occasional tears upset you as it is very common and we anticipate crying in some small children.

The more relaxed we (parent and dental staff) are at that time, the sooner the child will overcome his/her anxiety. As a parent myself, I am aware that a crying child is often harder on us parents than the child. Trust me on this one! It will go away with time, in some cases it takes several visits, and no harm is done.

My staff and I would love to partner with you to protect your child from dental disease. By starting dental visits at an early age and making them regularly, you can help your child have strong, healthy teeth all throughout life.

In order to provide you and your child with the most positive dental experience in a timely manner, please fill out and print the forms included on the “Forms for New Patients” page and bring them with you on the day of your appointed visit.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call or e-mail me. I am always available to answer any questions you may have.

Dentally Yours,

Dr. Joye Warr