



## VISIT THE DENTIST BY **1** BABY'S 1<sup>ST</sup> BIRTHDAY



CHILDREN WHO VISIT A DENTIST BY AGE 1 HAVE

**3.5**   
**FEWER CAVITIES**

AND CAN SAVE UP TO 40% ON DENTAL COSTS\*



Cavities are a significant health concern for Wisconsin children. Cavities can cause serious problems, even for children who do not have their permanent teeth yet. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends scheduling an appointment when the first tooth appears or no later than baby's first birthday.

### WHAT TO EXPECT

The dental provider or hygienist will:

- Review your child's history
- Talk with you about:
  - Teething
  - Thumb-sucking
  - Bottle and pacifier use
  - Feeding habits
  - Preventing mouth injuries
  - Scheduling the next visit
- Check/clean child's mouth and may apply fluoride



## MAKE YOUR CHILD'S FIRST VISIT POSITIVE

-  Make appointment at a time of day that is best for your child.
-  Use positive language when discussing your child's first visit.
-  Get into the habit of wiping your child's gums with a soft cloth.



## CHOOSE THE RIGHT DENTIST FOR YOUR CHILD

-  Does the dentist have special training or interest in treating children?
-  Is the office close to your home or child's day care?
-  Does the dental provider accept your dental insurance plan?

## HOW TO FIND A DENTAL PROVIDER



**Call the dental provider's office and ask, "Does your office provide age 1 dental exams?" (as recommended by the ADA)**



**Visit the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry's website**  
**[www.aapd.org](http://www.aapd.org)**  
**click on "Find a Pediatric Dentist"**



**Ask your child's pediatrician, local pharmacists, other parents or your own dental provider.**

\*Nowak, A.J. Casamassimo, P.S. Scott, J. Moulton, R. Do Early Dental Visits Reduce Treatment and Treatment Costs for Children? *Pediatric Dentistry*, Vol. 36, Nov./Dec. 2014.

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