

A B C D E F G H Children's Health

Protecting Tiny Teeth

(NAPSA)—Believe it or not, many young kids suffer from tooth cavities. According to the U.S. CDC, approximately 52 percent of children have had a cavity by the time they turn eight. That's why it's important for kids and parents to begin taking care of their teeth as soon as baby teeth start to grow in.



A small, soft toothbrush can help keep young smiles bright.

Pediatric dentist Mina Elahi recommends parents bring children to a dentist as soon as the first tooth appears. Dr. Elahi also advises:

- Fluoride toothpaste shouldn't be used on children under the age of six since it can cause permanent white stains on their teeth. Also, children should only use a pea-sized amount of toothpaste every time they brush.

- Brushing can be fun with a kid-friendly toothbrush like the new REACH® Strawberry Shortcake™—and Orange Blossom™—toothbrushes. They feature colorful images of popular cartoon characters, unique, scratch 'n' sniff packaging and scented brush handles.

- Make sure kids brush for at least two minutes! To make it fun, use a timer that kids can follow.

- Toothpaste is one area where it's okay to indulge in a sweet tooth. New REACH® Strawberry Shortcake™ toothpaste has fluoride and a sweet strawberry flavor.

- Schedule regular checkups with the dentist.

Keep these tips in mind and your youngsters can have happy, healthy smiles for years to come.