

TIPS FOR TOTS

Michael E. Huguet, D.D.S.
Jill K. Owens, D.D.S.
Michelle Feliciano-Turner, D.D.S.

We appreciate you scheduling treatment for your child with our office. Our goal is to make your child's visit a positive experience. The following are a few things your child may encounter when you visit our office, and also a few of our recommendations which might make their visit more successful.

In general, we encourage parents to relax in our reception room during your child's visit. This helps us develop a one-on-one relationship of trust and cooperation with your child. You are, however, always welcome to check on your child. We want this to be a pleasant experience for all involved.

For your child's comfort we may recommend using nitrous oxide (laughing gas) which will relax them without putting them to sleep. We may also use topical and local anesthetic to put the tooth to sleep. To keep your child's mind off of the treatment we have movie eye glasses which will enable your child to watch a movie during a longer procedure. We do have a selection of movies in the office however you are welcome to bring a favorite from home if you like.

In some situations we may also refer a child to a children's specialist, or pedodontist. We will usually recommend this if a child has special needs or would benefit from an environment especially designed for children.

Many parents wonder how best to prepare a child for a visit to the dentist. In general no preparation is the best preparation. Children are very intuitive and if they see that you are nervous about their treatment they will become nervous as well. We suggest that you minimize talking about the visit and simply explain to them they are going to see the dentist so that they can keep a healthy and beautiful smile. It is best to keep your explanations positive and avoid negative words like shots and pain. After treatment it is not unusual for the tooth or mouth to be sore. You may want to give your child some Children's Tylenol before the numbness wears off.

If you have any questions regarding your child's care please do not hesitate to give us a call.