



### Parent Guidelines

You may choose whether or not you accompany your child into the treatment room for his/her filling appointment. Although we sense that some children do better without parents present, we are open to having you with your child. If you choose to be present, we suggest the following guidelines to improve chances of a positive outcome:

1. Allow us to prepare your child
2. Be supportive of the practice's terminology. We try to avoid words that scare the child due to previous experiences. Please support us by NOT USING negative words that are often used for dental care. These include:

DON'T USE	OUR EQUIVALENT
needle or shot	sleepy juice
drill	Mr. Whistle, Mr. Bumpy
drill on tooth	clean a tooth
pull or yank tooth	wiggle out the broken pieces
decay, cavity	sugar bug
examination	count teeth
tooth cleaning	tickle teeth
explorer	tooth counter
rubber dam	raincoat
gas	silly air

This will help you understand your child's description of the filling experience. Our intention is not to "fool" the child, it is to create an experience that is positive. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us build a good attitude for your child!

3. Please be a **silent observer**
  - A. This allows us to maintain communication with your child
  - B. Children will normally listen to their parents instead of us and may not hear our guidance
  - C. You might give incorrect or misleading information
4. If asked to leave, be ready to immediately walk away
  - A. Many children will try to control the situation
  - B. "Acting out" is normal, but unacceptable during fillings
  - C. This is intended to "short circuit" the control attempt
  - D. We will continue to support your child at all times

These are very important ways that you can actively help in the success of your child's visit. We are confident that all will go well and hope these guidelines will help prepare you with confidence for the upcoming appointment.

Signature (Parent or Legal Guardian) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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