



Caring for your teeth – and how the tooth fairy got her job!

Before the Programme

See how much the children know about 'wobbly' teeth and the tooth fairy. Talk about rainbows.

Poem

All The Little Milk Teeth by Diana Neill

All the little milk teeth
Standing in a row,
Scrub, scrub, scrub,
And away we go.

First do all the front ones
Then do at the back,
Every night and morning,
Just like that.

Story

The Rainbow Fairies by Liz Weir

Song

This Is The Way We Brush Our Teeth (by Chris Ward)

See link on teacher's resources page for music & words

FOLLOW-UP SUGGESTION

DISCUSSION

- Talk about visits to the dentist. What happens, and why do we need to go?
- Talk about 'milk' teeth, how they become 'wobbly' and the growth of a new set. (Some children may have an alarming misapprehension about their teeth 'falling out').
- Why we need to brush our teeth. Bring in a toothbrush and demonstrate the correct technique.
- Rainbows – provide samples of seven colours.
- The Nosey Fairy in the story opened the rainbow box to see what was inside. Ask the children if they have ever done something they weren't supposed to. What happened?

ACTIVITIES

What's in the box?

Put some objects in a box or drawstring bag e.g. a pair of sunglasses, a pencil, a toy car. Close the box and ask one child in turn to put his hand into the box and identify the object he touches – invite the child to take the object out to see if he is right. This can be varied by using items of clothing or things you'd find in the kitchen.

Good and bad

Bring in a shopping bag full of 'edible' shopping and empty the items one at a time onto the table in front of the children. They can help sort it into two sets – one set of food are bad for your teeth and one set good – then finish off the activity by letting the children eat all the good things – it won't cost a fortune either – raisins, fruit, crisps, cheese etc.

Queen/King of the Fairies

Cut strips of card three inches wide and long enough to wrap round a child's head. Then let the children be creative decorating their own strip with collage materials particularly shiny things like glitter, off-cuts of shiny paper, sequins, feathers etc., bright felt tips (always checking that glues and pens are water based and therefore washable). When the strips are complete the ends can be overlapped and stapled or stuck together revealing a shiny and unique crown for the fairy queens and kings.

Rainbows, rainbows everywhere

Talk about the colours of the rainbow and then get the children to find the seven colours in the felt tip box. (Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet). Bind them together with an elastic band and use as one pen to make rainbow patterns on the paper.

Or with more supervision you could put water in a basin with a few spots of cooking oil and drop coloured inks onto the surface – watch for the rainbows – you can try and catch them by floating a piece of white paper over the top of the water and retrieving. Hopefully the inks will appear on your page in a marble effect.

