

Preparing for a Positive Dental Experience

Thoughtful care begins before your appointment.

At AUSCA Dental, we use positive, age-appropriate language to help children feel comfortable and confident during their visit. The words we choose can make a significant difference in how a child experiences dental care.



OUR AUSCA KID DICTIONARY



Counting Teeth

Examination



Sugar Bug Hole

Decay or cavity



Tickle Teeth

Tooth cleaning or prophylaxis



Tooth Raincoat

Rubber dam



Happy Air

Nitrous Oxide or gas



Mr. Thirsty

Suction



Tooth Counter

Explorer or dental probe



Squirt / Water Gun

Water / air sprayer



Tooth Chair / Pillow

Mouth prop



Squishy Fish

Suctioning mouth prop



Words We Avoid



Needle or shot



Drill
(high speed or low speed)



Drill teeth



Pull or yank a tooth



Use These Instead



Sleepy Juice



Mr. Bumpy



Clean the sugar bugs out



Wiggle a tooth out

Why We Use These Words

Our goal is never to mislead children. We use language that feels approachable and non-threatening. With growth & increased comfort, we gradually introduce more traditional dental terminology.



What to Expect at Your Child's Appointment



Building Confidence

Whenever possible, children are encouraged to attend treatment independently. This helps them build confidence, trust, and resilience while developing a positive relationship with dental care.



Stay Calm

Children often mirror their parent's emotions. Stay calm and composed to reassure your child and maintain a positive atmosphere. Discussions about financial matters should be held privately with our team before or after the appointment.



Minimize Distractions

A quiet, focused environment helps your child remain comfortable and allows our team to provide efficient and effective care.



Trust the Process

Our team is specially trained to guide children through treatment in a safe, supportive and positive way.



Questions Are Always Welcome

Feel free to ask questions about the procedure or your child's oral health, but please wait for appropriate breaks or moments when the dental team can respond without disrupting their work.



Learn More
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105-1911 Sooke Rd, Victoria BC



(250) 419-8484



www.auscadental.com



reception@auscadental.com

