



Welcome to Riverfront Pediatric Dentistry! We are committed to promoting a positive attitude toward dentistry that will last a lifetime. We have created an environment that is friendly, safe, and welcoming for children and the entire family. Our practice is dedicated to the prevention of dental disease because we understand that prevention is the key to improving the oral health of children. In order to provide the best dental experience for your child, we would like to offer some advice on what to expect at your child's upcoming visit:

- 1) **First Visit:** It's important that your child has a positive dental experience from a young age. That's why we believe children should see a pediatric dentist by age 1. This ensures a great start to your child's dental health. We tailor your child's visit based on his/her age and comfort level. Young children often do better in a parent's lap (aka "lap exam") whereas older children may sit independently in the dental chair. Depending on your child's age, you may want to bring your child's favorite small toy, stuffed animal or blanket to the first visit.
- 2) **Dental Terminology:** You will notice that we speak in general terms and use special kid-friendly vocabulary to introduce your child to our environment. It is best to avoid talking about specific procedures or instruments since we will prepare your child. Remember, you can easily transmit your past dental fears so it is best to treat this appointment in a matter-of-fact way and so will your child. Should your child have questions, please avoid using negative words that may create unnecessary anxiety in your child.

**Instead of:**

Examination  
Suction  
Explorer  
Tooth cleaning  
Fluoride treatment  
Needle/shot  
Drill  
Cavity/decay  
Filling  
Pull or extract tooth  
Nitrous oxide

**Use:**

Count teeth  
Mr. Thirsty, straw  
Tooth counter  
Tickle teeth  
Tooth vitamins  
Sleepy juice/medicine  
Toothbrush/whistle/motorcycle  
Sugar bugs  
Tooth paint, princess tooth, superhero tooth  
Wiggle a tooth  
Sweet air, fruit (i.e. cherry, grape) air

3) **Parental Presence:** Parents are invited to accompany their child during cleanings and treatment, although we know that some children do better without parents present. If you choose to be present, we ask that you be a "silent observer." This allows us to maintain communication with your child while giving him/her our complete and undivided focus.

4) **Scheduling:** We encourage morning appointments for children under 6 years since younger children are often more cooperative, alert, and happy earlier in the day.

Thank you for trusting us with the care of your child. You, as the parent, play the most important role in your child's dental care. Please do not hesitate to let us know if you have any special concerns. Communication is very important for effective and successful treatment. We are looking forward to meeting you and your child at your scheduled appointment.

Sincerely,

Dr. Eyal Simchi and the Team at Riverfront Pediatric Dentistry