

Penelope Polka Dot

ABOUT THE BOOK

Penelope has a gazillion questions for the tooth fairy.

That evening, Penelope's father had prepared the dinner dish she loved the most. Just as she was about to take her first bite of the tasty spaghetti Bolognese, he had made just for her, one of her front teeth fell into the sauce.

Her mom reassured her, saying, "It's nothing serious, sweetie. It means your new teeth are coming in, and you must put that baby tooth under your pillow at bedtime. When you are sound asleep, the tooth fairy will come by. In exchange for your tooth, she will leave you a little gift for your tooth."

Penelope put her baby tooth under her pillow with a note to the Tooth Fairy. She had a gazillion questions to ask her. Most of all, she wanted to know what the tooth fairy does with all the teeth she collected.



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Penelope is here to put teachers and students alike in a J-O-Y-F-U-L learning space!

This guide is filled with book-specific activities, aligned with Core Curriculum Competencies, such as the use of language, to identify, create and share ideas, feelings and opinions and preferences. You will find integrated learning sure to make your classroom a stupendous and fantastical learning environment!



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Whole Class - Warm-Up

All About Your Teeth

Since February is Dental Health Awareness Month, what better time to ask children why their teeth are important and why they like them? They should be able to respond to the following:

1. Why are baby teeth important?

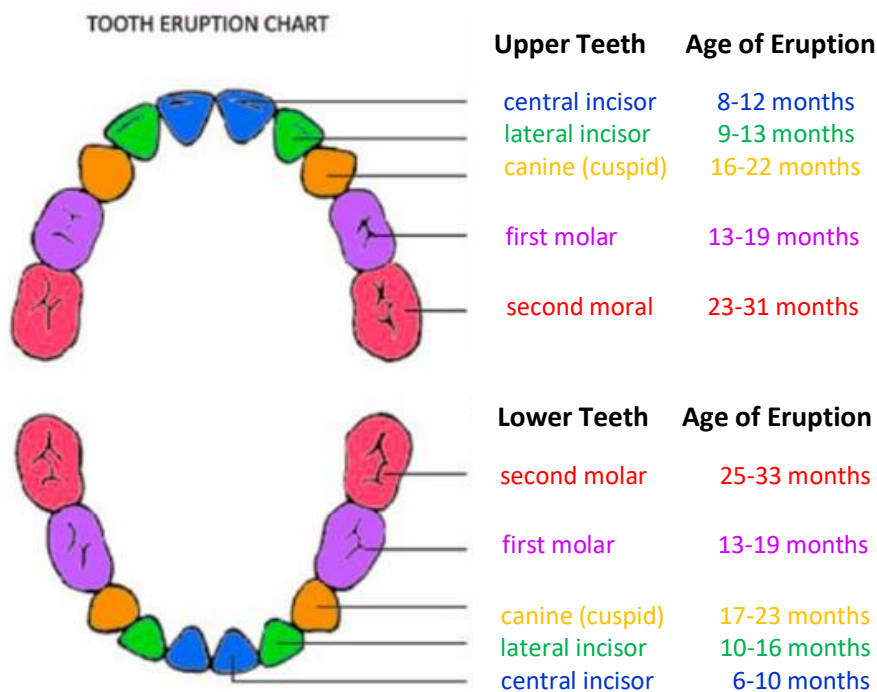
They are essential because they help us smile, eat, talk, and hold space for adult teeth.

2. What is their first set of teeth called, and when do they start to grow?

They are called baby teeth, also called primary teeth, and they start to come in at about six months of age and continue until about two and a half.

3. Why is it important to take care of their baby teeth?

Taking care of children's baby teeth helps to establish good oral health habits and increases the chances of having a healthy mouth later in life.



Source: Essential Baby

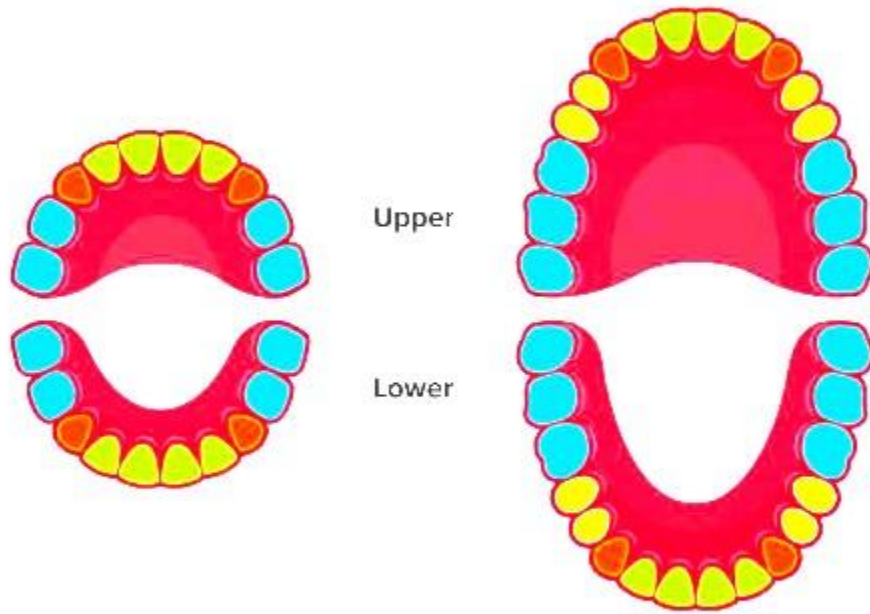
- Invite a dental hygienist to class to discuss proper teeth health care.
- [America's Tooth Fairy - Resources \(americastoothfairy.org\)](http://americastoothfairy.org) Check out this resource for free activity ideas.

Care for Your Teeth

Teeth Names

Primary Teeth

Secondary Teeth



incisors



canines



premolars



molars

CORE CONNECTIONS

Communication

The ability to interact and share, acquire, transform ideas and information, and make connections by expressing their individuality, furthering their learning, and getting things done. It is fundamental to finding satisfaction, purpose, and joy.

Thinking

Knowledge, skills, and processes associated with intellectual development permit students to take subject-specific concepts and content and transform them into a new understanding. This ability includes specific thinking skills, habits of mind, and metacognitive awareness to process information from various sources, including thoughts and feelings, at a subconscious or unconscious level to create new understandings.



Writing letters

Imagine that you must write a letter to the tooth fairy to ask her some of the questions that Penelope did not ask. What would you put in your letter? The Tooth Fairy doesn't have an email address, can you believe it! The truth is, collecting over 300,000 teeth a night keeps the tooth fairy pretty busy, too busy to check email. Not to mention- the Tooth Fairy would never fly and read emails at the same time. That's too dangerous! You can send you letter to:

[The Official Tooth Fairy Connection | Flutter Pop](#)

Using Your Teeth Safety

Taking care of your teeth is important. Have each group of students prepare a poster illustrating the following tips or a mini book about their excellent dental hygiene habits.

1. Brush your teeth before going to bed.
2. Brush your teeth after meals.
3. Treat flossing as important as brushing.
4. Pick a toothbrush that is right for you.
5. Brush properly, up and down.
6. Drink more water.
7. Eat crunchy fruits and vegetables.
8. Limit sugary drinks and acidic foods.
9. Visit your dentist at least twice a year.
10. Smile to show off your pearly whites.

Personal and Social

Encompass the abilities to speak and listen as they relate to student's identity in the world as individuals and members of their community and society. Personal and social competencies are what students need to thrive as individuals, understand and care about themselves and others, and find and achieve their purposes in the world.

Like a story, commercials try to sell us their best products. It has a beginning, a middle, and an end that people can follow when watching.

Procedure: Tell children they will create their own brand of toothpaste using the following ingredients, which are easy to find in the grocery store or kitchen. Each student will mix the ingredients in an airtight container in class. In groups of two, they will try to invent a funny name for their toothpaste, create a label, and produce a commercial with a slogan or a jiggle.

Make your toothpaste:

4 tsp. Baking soda

1 tsp. Salt

1 tsp. Flavouring (such as peppermint extract)

Mix and store in an airtight container.

What Causes Cavities

[What causes cavities? - Mel Rosenberg - YouTube](#)

Ask Your Librarian

If you go to the library, ask the librarians to find books about the tooth fairy and other stories about teeth. They are experts and will find a gazillion books for you to read.



Vocabulary and Use

Explain the meaning of words and their relationships and nuances. Use words in narratives to recount events in sequence, including details describing actions, thoughts, and feelings—use of temporal words to signal the order of events, leading to a conclusion.

Teeth Vocabulary

Invite students to tell and illustrate a story about an animal going to the dentist, such as an alligator, hippopotamus, or cat.

- **Incisors:** The four top and bottom teeth.
- **Canines:** The teeth on either side of the incisors. There are two on top and two on bottom.
- **Bicuspids:** These are the teeth next to the canines. They are sometimes called premolars.
- **Molars:** After the bicuspids come the molars. There are four on top and four on bottom.
- **Cavities:** A cavity is a small hole in a tooth caused by tooth decay. If left untreated, cavities can lead to more severe dental problems.
- **Halitosis:** An oral health problem where the main symptom is bad-smelling breath. Brushing teeth and tongue after eating, using dental floss, and drinking plenty of water can alleviate bad breath.
- **Dental floss:** A thin piece of string for cleaning that is often waxed so it can easily move between the teeth and gums.
- **Braces:** Orthodontic devices used to align teeth and correct bite problems. They consist of brackets attached to the teeth and wires that apply pressure to move them into the proper position.
- **Electric toothbrush:** A toothbrush powered by electricity to clean the teeth and gum line.