

A Program of Ability Connection Colorado

## SEPTEMBER 2021

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The health of a child's mouth can affect all aspects of their life. School readiness depends on positive physical, social and emotional, language, and cognitive development. Oral health impacts each of these areas and is a key aspect of a child's school readiness.

Children with poor oral health may:

- Have a hard time concentrating and learning because they are in pain
- Miss more school days
- Develop other serious health conditions, such as infections
- Stop smiling, cover their mouth with their hands when they speak, or withdraw from family, friends, and teachers if others comment on the appearance of their teeth

#### Understanding Why Baby Teeth Are Important

Baby (primary) teeth are a child's first set of teeth. A baby's teeth start to come in at 6 to 10 months, and by the time a child is 2½ to 3 years old, all 20 baby teeth will have come into the mouth. Taking care of a child's baby teeth is important for the child's overall health and development.

https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/understanding-why-baby-teeth-important.pdf

### **REMINDERS**



Please join us on <u>Friday</u>, <u>September 10<sup>th</sup></u> <u>from 1:30-3:00</u> for a casual Meet-N-Greet and get to know your teachers.

2021 Back to School Virtual Event coming soon!

#### **HEALTH/SAFETY**

As we continue to battle COVID -19, our number one priority continues to be the health and safety of children, families and staff. As you may be aware the local health departments are mandating that children 2-11 wear a facial covering in schools. Therefore, we are asking that you provide a proper fitting mask for your child. If your child struggles wearing the mask at school, we will not force them, but will encourage them to have it on. We want to work together to help educate our children why we are now wearing masks at school.

Thank you for your cooperation and will continue to do our due diligence in preventing the spread of COVID.

# RESOURCES- IMPORTANCE OF ORAL HEALTH

https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/publication/brushing-your-childs-teeth

https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/publication/choosing-healthy-drinks-your-young-child

Tips for finding a dental clinic:

- Ask your child's Head Start teacher or other parents for suggestions.
- Ask your child's doctor for a referral.
- Visit these websites for finding a dentist in your community:
- http://www.aapd.org/finddentist
- http://www.mouthhealthy.org/en/find-adentist
- http://www.insurekidsnow.gov