



The Bravest Mouth in Town — Lesson Plan

Grade: Pre-K–1 | Duration: 40–50 minutes | CASEL Domain: Self-Management

Objective: Students will learn proper brushing technique (gentle circles, all surfaces, back teeth) and understand the role of flossing through the metaphor of Tooth Town.

Essential Question: *"Why does every tooth in Tooth Town deserve attention — even the shy ones in the back?"*

Materials: The personalized story, A toothbrush (demonstration), Play-doh or clay teeth, Paper and crayons

Vocabulary: Tooth Town, Gentle Circles, Gunk, Floss, Molars, Canines, Greeters, Enamel, Plaque, Cavity

ANTICIPATORY SET (5 MIN)

Ask: "Who brushed their teeth this morning? Now — did you brush the INSIDE of your teeth? Did you brush the very BACK ones?" Watch the honest reactions. "Today we're going to meet the teeth you've been forgetting."

DIRECT INSTRUCTION (15 MIN)

Read aloud. Pause when Tooth Town is revealed — have children point to their own front teeth, canines, and molars. Pause at the Gunk invasion. Demonstrate gentle circles vs. hard scrubbing on a model or paper. Emphasize: back teeth and inside-faces.

GUIDED PRACTICE (10 MIN)

Build a Tooth Town together. Practice gentle circles on the paper tooth exercise. Write the class Tooth Town Song.

INDEPENDENT PRACTICE (10 MIN)

Each child draws their own Tooth Town with labeled characters. Write: "The tooth I always forget is _____ and from now on I'll _____."

CLOSURE (5 MIN)

Sing the Tooth Town Song together. Commit: "Tonight I will brush my _____ teeth that I usually forget."

ASSESSMENT

Can children identify the four tooth types? Can they demonstrate gentle circles? Exit ticket: "Name one place in your mouth you'll pay extra attention to tonight."

DIFFERENTIATION

Support: Provide pre-drawn tooth outlines. Use hand-over-hand guidance for gentle circles demonstration.

Extend: Research: How many teeth do kids have vs. adults? Create a "Tooth Town Newspaper" with health tips from each tooth character.

HOME CONNECTION

Send home the Tooth Town Song lyrics. Ask families to practice gentle circles together and check for "forgotten" back teeth.
