



KANSAS DENTAL ASSOCIATION

Date: January 5, 2007
To: School Nurse
From: Paul Kittle, DDS, KDA Chairperson,
Council on Children's Dental Health
Regarding: National Children's Dental Health Month

February is National Children's Dental Health Month! I urge your participation to help stimulate your students' public awareness of the significance of good dental health and prevention of dental disease in our nation's youth. Remind your students about the preventive measures they can do to help fight against dental disease such as proper oral hygiene including daily brushing and flossing, regular dental visits, eating a well balanced nutritious diet low in sugar, and the avoidance of ALL tobacco products. Prevention IS the key to strong and healthy teeth.

This is your packet to assist you to promote Children's Dental Health Month during February. The packet includes a 3rd and 4th grade coloring contest entry form and rules, posters, coloring sheets, game sheets, a list of supplies available from the Kansas Dental Association (KDA) office, a few suggested activities, and a supply request form. All of this information is also available on our website at www.ksdental.org.

If you are familiar with the Children's Dental Health Month activities, you will notice a change this year. We are transitioning our target audience to the third grade. However, to keep one class from not being able to participate in the drawing contest to win a bicycle, both 3rd and 4th grade students will be able to submit their drawings. There will only be one bicycle awarded per dental district.

This year will be the tenth year the KDA has sponsored a drawing contest for students. The drawing contest, Tough Tooth Team (with the 2007 theme emphasizing the importance of Keeping Your Smile Healthy), makes a great class project to increase student awareness regarding their dental health. Once again, the KDA will award bicycles to 11 area coloring contest winners around the state.

The KDA's goal is to partner with schools and educators to teach children the importance of dental health. With that in mind, I encourage you to rely on the KDA as a meaningful resource to create maximum impact in the teaching of children's dental health. February is when the greatest resources are available. It is also when doctors, hygienists, assistants, billboards, television and radio stations can all reinforce your current curriculum objectives. All children should have the opportunity for a lifetime of healthy smiles.

5200 Huntoon
Topeka, Kansas 66604-2398
Phone: 785-272-7360
Fax: 785-272-2301