



BY KIDS FOR KIDS LESSON
The who, what, where, why, when, and how of dental care

Objective(s)	SWBAT identify the various members of a dental team.
Standards Addressed	W.5.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. SL.5.1 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on (<i>grade level</i>) topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly. RI.8.10 Independently and proficiently read and comprehend literary nonfiction at the high end of the grades 6-8 text complexity band. W.8.1B Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text. W.8.2D Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
Health Content	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The dentist, dental hygienist, and dental assistant are all a part of a dental team.2. The dentist is a doctor who takes care of oral health (mouth, teeth, and gums).3. Dental care is an important part of our overall health.4. Visiting the dentist every six months helps prevent tooth decay and gum disease. <p>Sources: www.kidshealth.org,</p>
Key Vocabulary	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. dentist – a doctor trained to take care of teeth (<i>source:www. kidshealth.org</i>)2. dental hygienist – a person trained to clean teeth, take dental x-rays, and provide other dental services. (<i>source: www.dictionary.com</i>)3. dental assistant – assists the dentist during treatment procedures (<i>source: www.ada.org</i>)4. oral health – “the health of the teeth, gums, and the entire oral-facial system” (<i>source: www.cdc.gov</i>)
Essential Understandings	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Trustworthy websites provide truthful information.2. "About Us" page or "Who We Are" page should explain who the website authors are.3. The ending of the URL (web address) gives a clue about the website's purpose.4. Website articles should be timely.
Materials Needed	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Laptop, computer, tablet with access to www.healthynnewsworks.org2. Writing materials – paper, pencil, etc...3. (optional – chart paper and markers)
Introduction	Think about the last time you went to the dentist. What do you like about going to the dentist? Is there anything you don't like? Share with a partner. Today we're going to learn about some of the people you might encounter at the dentist office and you'll learn about what you could do to pursue a career at a dental office.
Lesson	Explain to students that they will start by doing some research. They will find information about visiting the dentist and taking care of their teeth. Ask them to: * Go to www.kidshealth.org and search for “dentist.” Find the article called, “Going to the dentist.” * Read the article independently/with a partner/whole group. Think about how what you read in the article compares to your own experience at the dentist. Explain to students that there are a lot of different specialties in the field of medicine – and a dentist is the doctor who takes care of our teeth. The other people in the office who help take care of your teeth are the hygienist and the assistant. In order to find out more



www.HealthyNewsWorks.org

	<p>about those different careers, split your group. Each group will be in charge of finding out what you need to do to become a dentist, a hygienist, or an assistant. Have students come back together to share out what they found out. Record on a chart. The American Dental Association has a section on education/careers with a lot of information. Visit www.ada.org to find this.</p>
Dig Deeper (Optional)	<p>Visiting the dentist is just one part of taking care of our teeth. Using the information on www.kidshealth.org, ask students to find out what else they should do to care of their oral health. They can write or illustrate their findings and submit to: https://healthynewsworks.org/by-kids-for-kids/ They should remember to source the information.</p>
Health Journal	<p>Ask students to think about the various dental careers. Which one appeals most to you? There are also several specialists in the dental field – you might want to pursue one of those. (A specialist is someone who becomes an expert in one specific area – an oral surgeon or an orthodontist are two types of specialists.)</p>
Assignment(s)	<p>Ask students to complete one of the assignments below. Remember, you can submit their work to https://healthynewsworks.org/by-kids-for-kids/ for potential publication.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Write a letter to your dentist asking any questions you have about what they do and what training/education they needed to become a dentist.2. Create a PSA that shares why visiting the dentist is important. A public service announcement (PSA) is a brief message to encourage a specific action such as to stop smoking, wear sunscreen, or eat fruits and vegetables. The PSA generally should make one quick point. But the message—just like news stories—needs to be accurate. In this case, your message should illustrate an example of how visiting the dentist is an important part of our health.