


ORAL HEALTH SAMPLE POLICY #1




We at (name of child care facility) are committed to protecting the health and safety of our children, staff members and child care providers. Our facility recognizes that tooth decay is an infectious disease and a serious problem among young children, especially in Arizona. We also recognize that we, as staff members and child care providers, play an important role in preventing tooth decay and in educating the children, parents, staff members and child care providers on tooth decay and prevention


Policy:

The (name of child care facility) subscribes to the following recommendations to help prevent tooth decay:


- ★ Provide monthly oral health education and/or
 - Implement a toothbrushing program for children ages 3 and older. If a child needs specialized assistance or equipment, find resources with a local pediatric dental provider or contact ‘ADHS Oral Health’ for assistance.
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For more information on how to implement a toothbrushing program for children age 3 and older, please see the **Empower Toothbrushing Manual** found at the Empower website, theempowerpack.org. Click on Standard 7.



- ★ Staff members and child care providers will follow the recommendations below to prevent tooth decay:
 - Never share food or utensils with a child or baby.
 - Never put a child to sleep with a bottle.
 - Talk to the child’s parent, when possible, to encourage toothbrushing at home.
 - Ensure that children are not allowed to carry a bottle or sippy cup around during the day unless it is water.
 - Schedule snack times and provide healthy options. We will not allow snacking throughout the day, except as appropriate for children with special health care needs.
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For more information on inclusion of children with special health care needs and disabilities, multi-age grouping, family engagement, language and cultural adaptations, and various settings including homes and center facilities related to **Standard 7: Oral Health**, please visit the Empower website at theempowerpack.org. Click on Standard 7.



ORAL HEALTH SAMPLE POLICY #2



We at (name of child care facility) are committed to protecting the health and safety of our children, staff members and child care providers in regards to tooth decay. Tooth decay is an infectious disease and a serious problem among young children in Arizona. Our facility recognizes that we play an important role in preventing tooth decay and in educating children, parents, staff members and child care providers on tooth decay prevention. In keeping with this philosophy, our facility:

- ★ Provides oral health education once a month or implements a tooth-brushing program for children age 3 and older and/or
 - Educates our staff members and child care providers on steps they can take to prevent tooth decay according to age and developmentally appropriate guidelines found on theempowerpack.org website.



For more information on inclusion of children with special health care needs and disabilities, multi-age grouping, family engagement, language and cultural adaptations, and various settings including homes and center facilities related to **Standard 7: Oral Health**, please visit the Empower website at theempowerpack.org. Click on Standard 7.

