

Teething and the Child with Special Needs.

Facts:

- Teeth come in at different rates for all children. Children who may have delays in growth and development may take longer to get their baby teeth and may be slower to lose them. They also may take longer to get adult teeth.
- Children with developmental problems have a greater chance for bite problems like crowding, faulty bite of the teeth, and poor jaw position.

What to Expect When Your Child is Teething:

Common signs of teething include:

- Discomfort, restlessness, irritability, loss of appetite, and waking during the night
- Chewing on toys and fingers is very common.
- The amount of saliva may increase, causing your child to drool more and cough as he tries to clear his/her throat.

Soothing Your Infant While Teething:

- Give your child chewing objects such as a:
 - Cold, wet washcloth
 - Hard, solid teething ring
- It is not recommended that you give him an over-the-counter numbing medication.

Visit the dentist regularly so they can observe your child's dental development.

Material adapted from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, Division of Oral Health.
Source: <https://scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/Library/CR-010418.pdf>

