

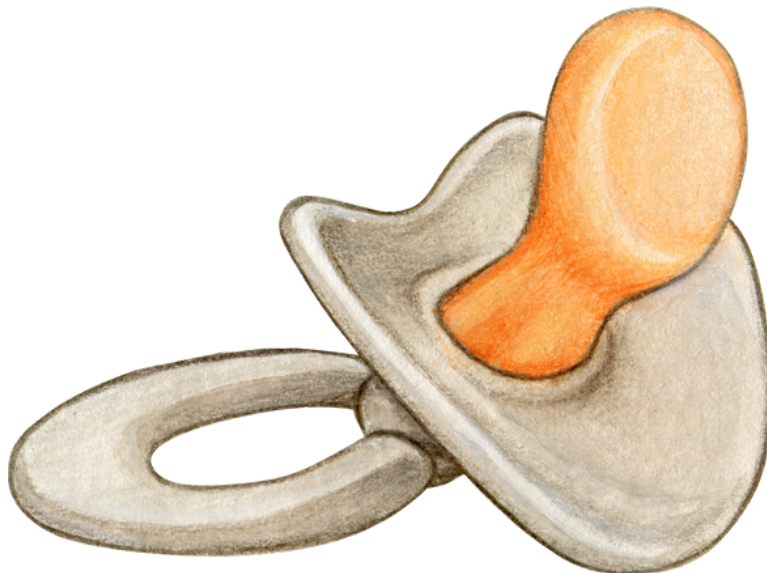
# The Pacifier and Your Infant's Oral Health.

## Facts:

- It is normal for young children to suck on their thumbs, fingers or pacifiers for comfort.
- Some pacifiers are safer than others.

## Using the pacifier safely and correctly:

- Make sure the pacifier is solid and all one piece.
- Pacifiers should be made of a nontoxic material.
- The shield should be ventilated and large enough to prevent swallowing.
- Pacifiers should not be tied to clothing.
- Never clean a pacifier that has dropped on the ground by placing it in your mouth. Germs that can cause cavities can be passed to your infant.
- Never dip a pacifier in sweetened foods, such as sugar, honey or syrup.
- Discourage the use of a pacifier after 18 months of age.



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>

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