DELTA DENTAL FOUNDATION

Fourth Grade Oral Health Lesson Plan

Dental History Timeline

Overview:

Students will learn the history of dentistry by working together to create a timeline, and add their own dental history to the worldwide history of dentistry.

Supplies:

- For a paper timeline, tape paper the length of a wall or chalkboard. Start the timeline at 25000 BC and end about 6 months into the future.
- For an electronic timeline, use a free site such as www.timetoast.com.

Steps:

1. Before lesson: ask students to interview their parents about their own dental history—age of first tooth, age of first dental visit, age first tooth was lost, date of next scheduled dental visit, etc.
2. Have students research the history of dentistry. Research can also include state and local dental history. An overview of the history of dentistry can be found online at Delta Dental's website.
3. Ask each student to identify at least one historical event from their research or reading and enter it on the timeline.
4. Ask each student to choose at least one personal historical dental event to enter on the timeline.
5. When timeline is complete, have students write about three dental events (either historical or personal) that surprised them, or that they feel are the most important events.

Extension/Adaptations:

Have students write and illustrate a story about a trip to the dentist in a historical era of their choice.

National Health Education Standards: 3, 7

Find lesson plan supplies and more online!

Michigan: www.deltadentalmi.com/teachingtools
Ohio: www.deltadentaloh.com/teachingtools
Indiana: www.deltadentalin.com/teachingtools

These lesson plans were developed by McMillen Health.

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