



Dental Care and Your Pets

This video resource is provided to help kids understand that proper oral hygiene (like brushing and having regular dental checkups) are important for humans and animals. Even furry, four-legged friends, like dogs!

In this video, kids go behind-the-scenes of an animal grooming appointment to learn why proper dental care is important for them and their pets. Kids will learn from trained animal technicians and veterinarians what happens when a dog gets their teeth cleaned and they'll get an up-close look at the inside of a dog's mouth and teeth.

As you watch this video, you can talk with kids about some of the similarities and differences between their human dental checkups versus what happens during a pet's dental checkup. For example, you can see that the animal technician starts by brushing the dog's teeth—why is it important for animals and humans to brush food and debris from their teeth?

Teachers can also pause the video when oral health terms are mentioned and ask the class to look up and write down the definition of these words for better comprehension. An example of this is the phrase "periodontal disease." What does "periodontal disease" mean? It's actually a more severe form of gum disease—pausing to explain complicated words can help make learning about oral health a little easier.

Finally, teachers might watch the video and then talk with their class about some of the ways kids can practice 'at home care' for their smiles as the animal technician mentions in the video.