

# Imagine being a dentist or dental hygienist

When you visit the dentist's office, your dentist and dental hygienist work as a team to protect your teeth. Maybe you'd like to help kids (and adults) fight cavities when you grow up. Answer these questions to help you decide.



Do you want to be a dental hygienist?



Do you want to be a dentist?

Do you like to meet new people?

The dental hygienist is one of the first people you'll see at the dentist's office.

Do you like to keep things shiny and clean?

A hygienist removes plaque and tartar buildup from your teeth.

Do you like to use cool tools?



Hygienists work with a lot of dental tools, like X-rays that help spot cavities.

Do you like to play search and find games?

Your dental hygienist will look at your mouth for signs of dental problems and share the results with your dentist.

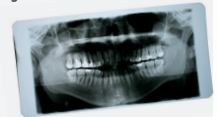
Do you like to teach people new things?

Your hygienist will show you the right way to brush and floss your teeth.

Do you really like to learn?

A dentist studies for about eight years or more to learn all about taking great care of your mouth.

Do you like to solve problems?



The dentist reads your X-rays and looks at your mouth to decide if anything needs to be fixed.

Do you like to make decisions?

If there's a problem, the dentist decides the best way to fix it.

Have you ever won at the game Operation?

Dentists perform a lot of skilled work with their hands, like filling cavities and pulling teeth.

Are you good at talking to people?

Your dentist will help you feel relaxed and explain what needs to be done to your teeth. The dentist will also answer any questions you ask.

Did you answer "Yes" to most of these questions? You did?! Maybe you'll grow up to work in a dentist's office!