



# DENTISTRY

## Merit Badge Requirements

- 1) Borrow X-ray films. Study the tooth structure. Look for decay. Then do the following:
  - A) Use the X-ray films as a guide to draw the lower molar. Label its parts and surfaces. Show surrounding structures such as bone and gum tissues.
  - B) Show on your drawing where the nerves and blood vessels enter the tooth.
  - C) Show on your drawing where bacterial plaque is most likely to be found.
  
- 2) Do the following:
  - A) Tell or write about what causes dental decay and gum disease. Tell what each of the following does: bacterial plaque, sugars, and acid.
  - B) Show that you can teach others the proper use of a toothbrush, dental floss, and disclosing wafers to clean bacterial plaque from teeth.
  
- 3) Arrange for a visit with a dentist. Before you go, ask if you can be given a dental examination and a plaque-control demonstration. Afterward, ask questions about things you want to know. Then write a report on what the dentist does in a checkup examination.
  
- 4) Do TWO of the following:
  - A) Name at least five instruments a dentist uses. On separate sheets of paper, draw them, label them, and explain how they are used.
  - B) With the help of a dentist, prepare a dental plaster cast using a vibrator, a mixing bowl, a water measure, a plaster measure, model plaster, a spatula, and a rubber mold.
  - C) Keep a record of everything you eat for 3 days. Circle those that may provide sugars that bacterial plaque need to make acid. List snacks that you should avoid to maintain the best oral health.
  
- 5) Talk about all of the following. Then select one and prepare a written report.
  - A) How fluorides help prevent tooth decay. The ways fluorides can be provided to the teeth.
  - B) First aid for saving a tooth that has been knocked out.
  - C) How the mouth is related to the rest of the body. Topics might include chewing, saliva, enzymes, nutrition, and speech.
  
- 6) Do TWO of the following:
  - A) Make a model tooth of soap, clay, papier-mâché, or wax. Using a string and a large hand brush, show proper tooth brushing and flossing to your troop or a school class.
  - B) Make a poster on prevention of dental disease. Show the need for good oral health.
  - C) Collect at least five advertisements for different toothpastes. List the claims that are made for each. Tell about the accuracy of the advertisements.
  - D) Write a feature story for your school newspaper on proper care of teeth and gums.
  - E) Make drawings and write about the progress of dental decay. Describe the types of dental fillings and treatments a dentist can use to repair dental decay problems.
  
- 7) Do ONE of the following:
  - A) Report on careers in dentistry: What are the different specialties of dentistry and what do specialists do?
  - B) Prepare a four-part summary of jobs in dentistry. Under the headings "Dentist," "Dental Hygienist", "Dental Assistant", and "Dental Laboratory Technician", list for each job the duties, education, costs of education, and length of training required, and other information to describe these jobs.

## Requirement 1

Borrow X-ray films. Study the tooth structure. Look for decay.

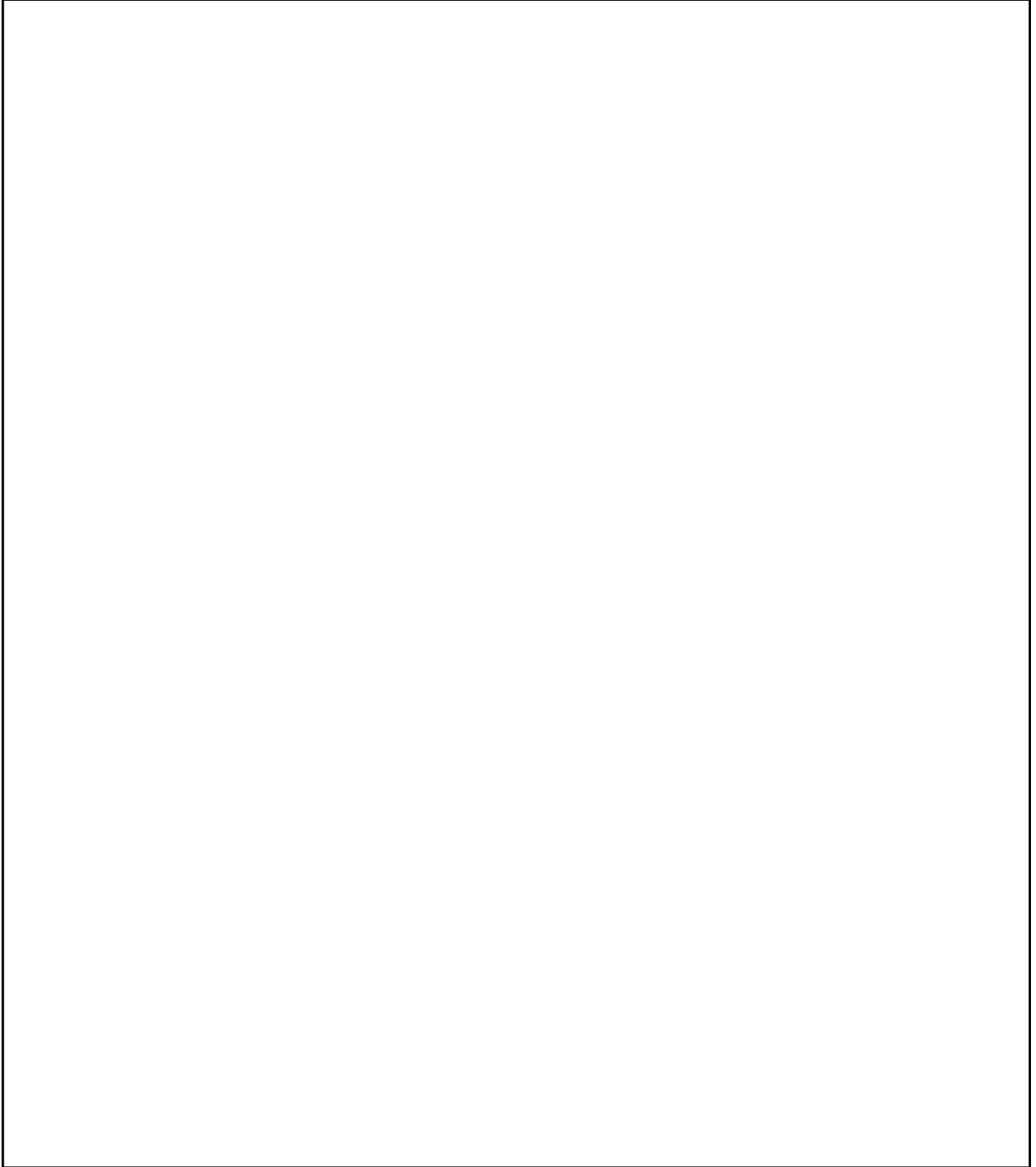
Using the space below, draw the lower molar. Include the following:

Label all of its parts and surfaces.

Show bone and gum tissues.

Show where the nerves and blood vessels enter the tooth.

Show where bacterial plaque is most likely to be found.





**Requirement 4**

This requirement gave you three options to choose from. You must select and complete two of the options.

If you selected *Option A*:

Name at least 5 instruments a dentist uses:

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

Use the area below to draw the five instruments that you listed above:

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Instrument #1

Instrument #2

Instrument #3

Instrument #4

Instrument #5

Describe how each of the instruments are used by the dentist.

Instrument #1: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Instrument #2: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Instrument #3: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Instrument #4: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Instrument #5: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_





## Requirement 6

You have been given five options to choose from for this requirement. You must select and complete only TWO of them.

If you selected *Option A*:

Make a model of a tooth. Describe how you made your model: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Demonstrate proper tooth brushing and flossing to your troop or a school class.

If you selected *Option B*:

Make a poster on prevention of dental disease. Have it show the need for good oral health.

\_\_\_\_\_ Show & explain your poster to your counselor and, if you have the opportunity, to your Scout unit.

If you selected *Option C*:

Collect 5 advertisements for different toothpastes. For each toothpaste list the claim it makes and tell about the accuracy of the advertisement.

Toothpaste 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Claim: \_\_\_\_\_

Accuracy: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Toothpaste 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Claim: \_\_\_\_\_

Accuracy: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Toothpaste 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Claim: \_\_\_\_\_

Accuracy: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Toothpaste 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Claim: \_\_\_\_\_

Accuracy: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Toothpaste 5: \_\_\_\_\_

Claim: \_\_\_\_\_

Accuracy: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If you selected **Option D**:

Write a feature story for your school newspaper on proper care of teeth and gums. Attach a copy of your story to this worksheet and share it with your counselor.

If you selected **Option E**:

Use the area below to make drawings that represent the process of dental decay:



Describe/explain the process of dental decay: \_\_\_\_\_

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Describe the types of dental fillings and treatments a dentist can use to repair dental decay problems: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Requirement 7

You have been given two choices for this requirement. Choose ONE of them and complete it.

If you selected *Option A*:

Investigate the careers in dentistry. Tell what you have found: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Describe the different specialties of dentistry: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What do specialists do? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If you selected *Option B*:

For each of the listed jobs in dentistry fill in the specified information.

**Dentist:** Job Duties: \_\_\_\_\_

Education Required: \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated Costs of Education: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of Training: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Information: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Dental Hygienist:** Job Duties: \_\_\_\_\_

Education Required: \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated Costs of Education: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of Training: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Information: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Dental Assistant:** Job Duties: \_\_\_\_\_

Education Required: \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated Costs of Education: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of Training: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Information: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Dental Laboratory Technician:** Job Duties: \_\_\_\_\_

Education Required: \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated Costs of Education: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of Training: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Information: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_