
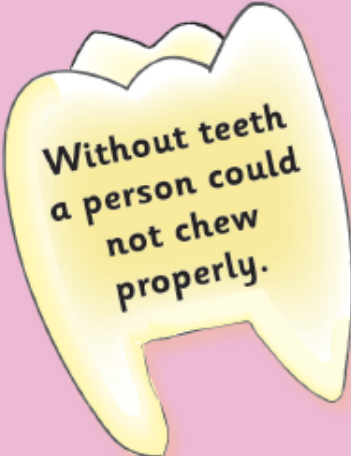



How Teeth Grow




From the time that babies are born to when they grow up, they will have two sets of teeth. Teeth are not ready to work when a baby is born.



**Without teeth
a person could
not chew
properly.**



**Teeth are very
important
for talking.**



**Your teeth work
with your tongue
and lips to help you
to say sounds.**

The information on the next pages tells you what happens to teeth as a person grows up.

Practice questions

A How many sets of teeth will a person have in their lifetime?

B What do we need teeth for?

Tick **two**.

walking

chewing

talking

tasting

seeing

cleaning

From baby to teenager



When a baby is born, its teeth are hidden in its gums. The teeth grow as the baby does.

This baby is seven months old. One or two teeth are starting to break through her gums.



By the time children are about three years old, they should have their first set of teeth. These are called milk teeth or baby teeth. A child has 20 milk teeth altogether.



1 What is another name for baby teeth?

2 How old are children when they get their first set of teeth?

Tick **one**.

about three years old

nearly six years old

one and a half years old

seven years old

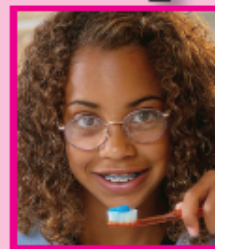


When a child gets a bit older the teeth start to wobble and fall out one by one.

Tom is seven years old, and he has just lost his two front teeth.



By the time older children are about thirteen or fourteen years old they will have lost all of their baby teeth. They will have 28 adult teeth.

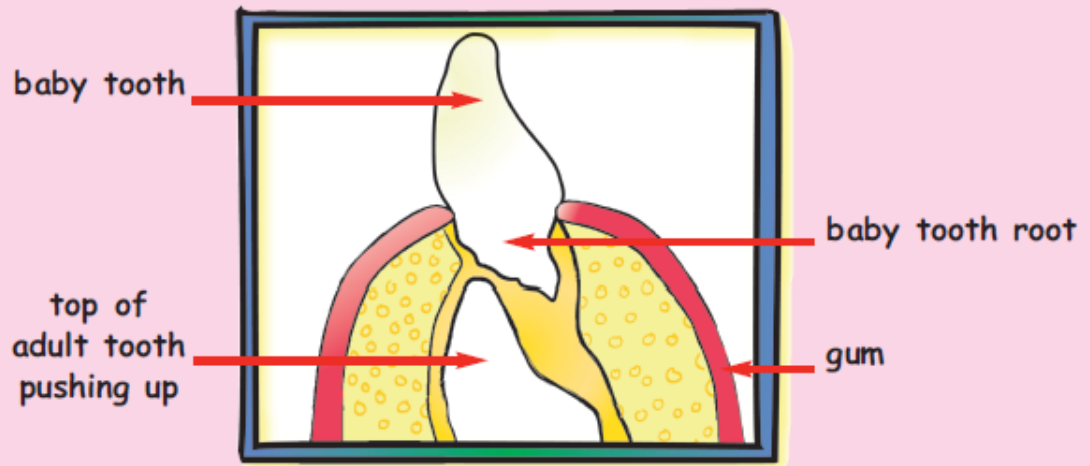


3 How old was Tom when he lost his front teeth?

4 What change happens to children's teeth when they are about thirteen years old?

Why teeth wobble

The roots of the baby tooth start to dissolve a few months before the tooth is due to fall out. The baby tooth starts to wobble because it does not have strong roots to hold it in place any more.



At the same time, the adult tooth pushes up into the space under the tooth. Then it starts to push the baby tooth out of the way. The baby tooth cannot hold on without any roots and so it falls out.

Slowly, all of the adult teeth grow and push out all of the baby teeth.

- 5 Draw lines to match the words to show what happens when a baby tooth falls out.

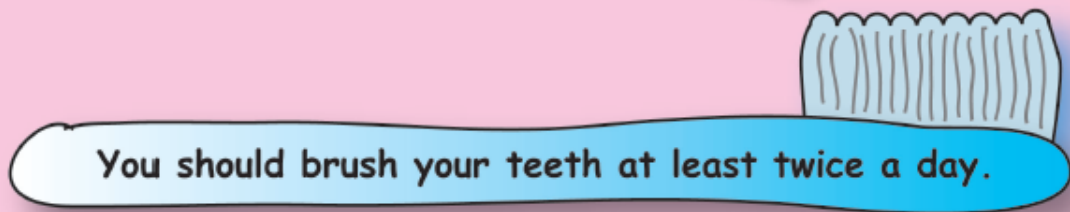
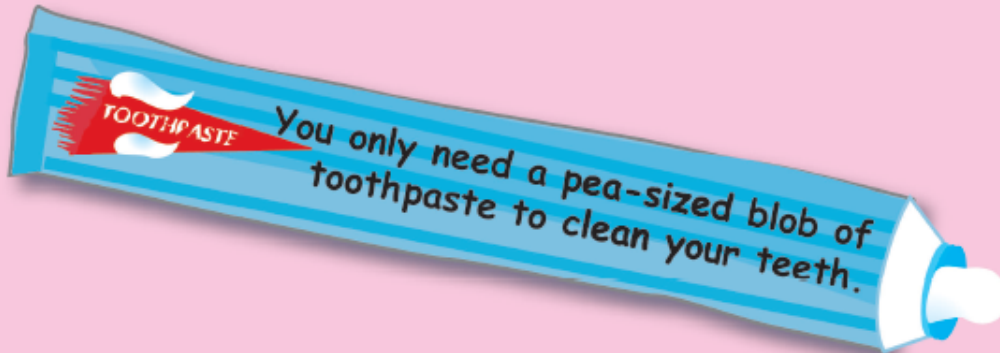
One has been done for you.

Baby tooth roots	pushes up under the baby tooth.
The adult tooth	the baby tooth cannot hold on.
Without roots	falls out.
The baby tooth	start to dissolve.

A line connects the box 'The baby tooth' to the box 'falls out.'

Taking care of your teeth

Your teeth will grow all by themselves, but you need to make sure they stay healthy. If you look after your adult teeth well, you will keep them for the rest of your life.



You should try to eat a healthy diet and visit the dentist every six months.

- 6 Find and copy one word in the text that means 'fit and strong'.

- 7 How big should your blob of toothpaste be?

Tick **one**.

as big as an egg

as big as a pea

as big as a tooth

as big as a cherry

8 How often should you visit the dentist?

9 What do you learn from the information in *How Teeth Grow*?

Tick **one**.

how your teeth change as
you grow up and why

what happens when
you eat

how you learn to talk

what happens to teeth
after they fall out

Mark schemes

1

How Teeth Grow

A Two/2.

practice

B Both options to be correctly ticked

walking	chewing✓
talking✓	tasting
seeing	cleaning

practice

1 Milk teeth.

Also accept:
Milk.

1

2 About three years old.

1

3 Seven (years old).
7.

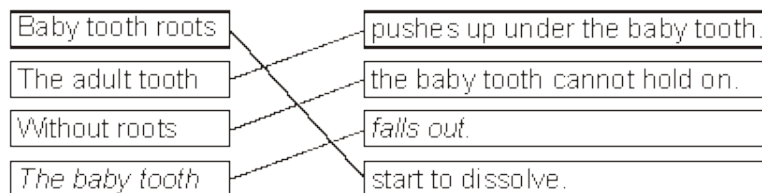
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4 Award 1 mark for either of the following:

1. a reference to the loss of all baby teeth / milk teet
2. a reference to the appearance of (all 28) adult teet

1

5 *1 mark for one or two correctly matched.*
2 marks for all three correctly matched.



1 or 2 correct = 1 mark
All 3 correct = 2 marks

- 6 Award 1 mark for:
healthy.
- 7 Award 1 mark for:
As big as a pea. 1
- 8 Award 1 mark for a reference to (once) *every six months*, eg.
- *after six months*
 - *twice a year.* 1
- 9 Award 1 mark for the correct option ticked.
how your teeth change as you grow up and why. 1