



CARING FOR SPACE MAINTAINERS

The purpose of the space maintainer is to hold the space open for the permanent tooth to erupt into and assist in minimizing orthodontic needs in the future. It will be left in place until the permanent tooth erupts into the mouth.

1. Teeth will be tender for the first few days. Your child should avoid prying or poking at the wire with his/her fingers.
2. It is important that your child avoids chewing gum, eating sticky things like taffy, tootsie rolls and hard items like corn nuts and ice. These snacks can break or cause the appliance to become loose.
3. Brush the appliance along with the rest of the teeth at least twice daily.

Checking the space maintainer periodically will insure that it is still properly placed. If it happens to break or becomes loose, please call us immediately to schedule an appointment at (916) 435-9100.