Parent Guidelines for being a Silent Observer

You may choose whether you accompany your child to his/her operative appointment. Although we sense that some children do better without parents present, we are open to having you with your child. We ask that only 1 parent come back for the treatment. All siblings must remain in the waiting room. If you choose to be present, we suggest the following guidelines to improve chances of a positive outcome.

1. Allow us to prepare your child
2. Be supportive of the practice’s terminology
3. Please be a silent observer, support your child with only touches
   a. This allows us to maintain communication with your child
   b. Children will normally listen to their parents instead of us and may not hear our guidance
   c. You might give incorrect and misleading information
4. If asked to leave, be ready to respect the request
   a. Children will try to control the situation
   b. This is intended to help stop the control attempt
   c. We will continue to support your child at all times

To improve the chances of your child having a positive experience in our office, we are selective in our use of words. We try to avoid words that scare the child due to the previous experiences. Please support us by NOT USING negative words that are often used for dental care.

**DON'T USE**

- Needle or shot
- Drill
- Drill on tooth
- Pull a tooth
- Decay, cavity
- Exam
- Explorer
- Gas

**Our Equivalent**

- Sleepy juice
- Toothbrush
- Clean a tooth
- Wiggle a tooth
- Sugar bug
- Counting teeth
- Tooth counter
- Happy air

These are very important ways that you can actively help in the success of your child's visit. Our intention is not to “trick” your child, but instead to create a positive and fun experience. We are confident that all will go well and hope these guidelines will help prepare you with confident for the upcoming appointment.

Signed: _____________________________________________  Date:__________________________