

Ofsted Good Provider

February 2026

Laira Green Primary School
Shaping hearts, minds and futures

BE KIND, *BE* DETERMINED, *BE* PROUD

Dear parents and carers

It has been a very busy month at Laira Green Primary School, and I am so proud of everything our children have achieved. They have enjoyed some wonderful trips to support their learning. Year 5 visited the Plymouth Synagogue and Buckfast Abbey. Year 3 visited the Plymouth Mosque. These visits helped bring their RE learning to life. Seeing places of worship first-hand helps children understand different beliefs, traditions and communities in a real and meaningful way.

The whole school also took part in a fantastic Sonopera event. The children absolutely loved it! It was a brilliant experience, with lots of singing, creativity and smiles. It was lovely to see everyone joining in so confidently.



Our School Council had the exciting opportunity to visit the Lord Mayor's Parlour at Plymouth Guildhall. This was a wonderful experience for them. They learned more about how the city is run and the role of the Lord Mayor, helping them understand democracy and leadership in action. We are really proud to be able to offer experiences such as these for free and we look forward to more in the weeks ahead.

We have welcomed many visitors to our school this month. We were proud to host a Little Wandle Champion event, sharing good practice in early reading. We also hosted a Local Authority Early Years workshop for headteachers and leaders from across the city. It is always a privilege to showcase the hard work that happens here every day. Our children continue to work hard in their lessons, and we are incredibly proud of them. Visitors often comment on how calm and welcoming our school feels. They notice the children's good behaviour, positive attitudes and the caring way they treat one another.



We are hopeful that work on the KS2 playground is due to start again this week. We know the delays have been frustrating, but the children have been patient and understanding. We are excited to see the improvements take shape.

Our Community Hub has now reached its first year. Thanks to continued funding for another year, we are able to keep this going for another year. Since we started it, we have provided food to the value of over £11,000 to support families in our community.



We are looking forward to the coming month, we have lots planned with the highlight being World Book Day. If you need a costume for your child- we still have lots available, just pop into the office and let us know.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Mrs Jones



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Dates for your Diary

Monday 2nd March
Year 1 Open Top Bus Tour of Plymouth

Tuesday 3rd March
Mental Health Schools Team to run a wellbeing workshop with Year 2
Year 4 trip to Efford Valley

Thursday 5th March- World Book Day
Children invited to dress up, activities and virtual author events throughout the day
Parenting Pathway being run in The Dell Centre - Plymouth Family Hub
12:30 – 2:30pm

Monday 9th March
Preschool and RSC toothbrushing visit from Bob the Badger

Tuesday 10th March
Devon and Cornwall Police Youth Engagement & Community Safety Partnership to deliver Knife Crime workshop toYear 6
Mental Health Schools Team to run a wellbeing workshop with Year 2

Thursday 12th March
Parenting Pathway being run in The Dell Centre - Plymouth Family Hub
12:30 – 2:30pm

Friday 13th March
Reception Mother's Day Assembly 9:15-10:00am

Tuesday 17th March
Year 5 to watch 'Oceans with Sir David Attenborough' at Cineworld
Mental Health Schools Team to run a wellbeing workshop with Year 2

Thursday 19th March
Reception to visit Efford Library
Parenting Pathway being run in The Dell Centre - Plymouth Family Hub
12:30 – 2:30pm

Monday 23rd March
Year 2 Trip to Saltram

Tuesday 24th March
Mental Health Schools Team to run a wellbeing workshop with Year 2

Friday 27th March
Treat Friday- treats on sale on the KS1 playground 3:05-4:30pm

Monday 30th March
Read with Us week- families invited into school to read with their child 8:30-9:00am
Monday- Years 5 and 6
Tuesday Years 3 and 4
Wednesday- Years 1 and 2
Thursday- Preschool and Reception

Tuesday 31st March
Year 3 and Year 4- Faith Speaker visitor
Mental Health Schools Team to run a wellbeing workshop with Year 2

CLASS UPDATES

Preschool





Preschool have had another fantastic month of playing, learning and exploring together. During the month of February we continued with our theme of 'Helping Hands.' The children particularly enjoyed exploring the rhyme 'Dr Foster went to Gloucester' and used a range of props and musical instruments to help them with this. We even performed the rhyme to our special visitors: Cllr Creswell, Luke Pollard and one of our school governors when they came to launch the 'Let's Read Together' book sharing scheme. Towards the end of this month, just before half term, Preschool went on a train ride adventure in the hall to launch our new topic, 'On the Move' and are excited to learn about lots of different types of transport over the coming weeks. During our tuning into sounds sessions, the children have encountered new phonemes and their ability to concentrate, focus and take part in these sessions grows daily. They are keen to 'tune into' sounds in the environment and explore this learning away from the adult led sessions. Our youngest preschool children are showing a real love of nursery rhymes and are joining in with such growing confidence as we sing these together. In our number time sessions the focus with both our youngest and oldest children has been on counting accurately, pointing to each object and saying the numbers in the correct order. The children have engaged brilliantly with our PE sessions each week, where they have developed their ball skills and these skills are being used outside when the children engage in their independent learning time. It has been fantastic to also see how the children have been using the musical instruments to create simple rhythms, a skill which we have been learning this month in our music sessions. Well done Preschool for all of your hard work this month.

Reception



What a wonderful month it has been in Reception! The children continue to impress us with their enthusiasm and progress in learning.
They have been very busy starting their exciting new topic, 'Dinosaur Detectives', which began with a mysterious discovery. A pirate sent them a letter and left treasure maps and clues hidden around the school, leading them to a mysterious egg in the school hall! As a class, RSC decided to take care of the egg. They created a safe space to protect it and designed signs to make sure it would not be disturbed. So far, the children have thoroughly enjoyed researching dinosaurs and discovering fascinating facts. They are looking forward to stepping into the role of a palaeontologist - just like Mary Anning - as they learn all about dinosaurs and fossils. They will explore how fossils are formed and what they can tell us about the history of our planet. The children will also deepen their understanding by learning about herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. In PE this term, RSC are focusing on dance. They have begun exploring different actions and movements, developing greater control and coordination, and expressing their ideas through music. In Phonics, the children are now learning to write sentences independently, embedding all the phonics knowledge they have gained so far. Well done, Reception – keep up the fantastic work!



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CLASS UPDATES

Year 1

This month, Year 1 have worked incredibly hard and we are so proud of their enthusiasm and progress across all subjects. In English, the children have been exploring non-fiction texts, with a focus on writing a recount. They have shown super effort in organising their ideas and writing about events in the correct order. We were particularly impressed with their use of time adverbials such as first, next and finally to sequence their writing clearly. The children also worked hard to include conjunctions like and, but and because to extend their sentences and add more detail. Their confidence and independence have grown wonderfully. In Art, the children learned about Clarice Cliff and created their own colourful, patterned plates inspired by her designs. They carefully selected bright colours and bold shapes to produce eye catching pieces. It has been lovely to see their creativity shine. In PE, our focus has been gymnastics. The children practised balances and created different shapes with increasing control and confidence. They demonstrated excellent teamwork and listened carefully to instructions to ensure they worked safely. In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of addition and subtraction within 20. The children have used practical resources and number lines to solve problems accurately. In History, we recalled key facts about the Ancient Egyptians, showcasing all the wonderful learning we have been doing. In Science, we have been naming and identifying different animal groups, as well as learning about the weather and seasons. Well done, Year 1! Keep up the fantastic work!

Year 2

What a busy and exciting month February has been in Year 2! The children have continued to impress me with their enthusiasm and hard work across all areas of their learning. In Maths, we've been diving into the world of multiplication and division where we have learnt about equal groups and arrays. We have also been working hard on our 2, 5 and 10 times tables. Our English learning has taken us on a journey through time as we've developed our non-fiction writing skills by comparing London during the Great Fire in 1666 with London today. Year 2 have become plant scientists this month, learning about what plants need to stay healthy and carrying out an investigation to observe what happens when plants grow with and without sunlight. In PSHE, we've been focusing on dreams and goals. Everyone chose a personal goal to work towards, ranging from learning the macarena to learning to count to 20 in French! Our RE learning has introduced us to Islam, where we've learned about key beliefs including the five pillars and the 99 names of Allah. We also explored some stories about the Prophet Muhammad and how these stories impact the lives of Muslims today. As a class, we have really enjoyed some of the texts we've been reading together during February. We have especially enjoyed exploring lots of funny poems in our poetry book 'Perfectly Peculiar Pets'. There were some very funny ideas about their own perfect pets too! Well done for another fantastic month of learning, Year 2!

Year 3

This month, our Year 3 children have enjoyed wrapping up their Term 3 learning and are feeling excited about the new topics coming in Term 4. It has been a very hands-on few weeks, especially in science. The children took part in practical investigations exploring four different soil types: peat, sandy, chalk, and clay. They tested which soils absorbed the most water and discussed which would be best for planting - there were lots of great predictions and thoughtful discussions! In Maths, the children have been working hard on fractions. They progressed from understanding unit fractions and denominators to confidently finding equivalent fractions on a number line. They have shown fantastic determination and used a range of strategies to support their learning. In English and History, the children have loved learning about the Shang Dynasty. They discovered fascinating facts about ancient rulers, social classes, and the earliest known Chinese writing on turtle shells. They then used this knowledge to create their own non-fiction writing, organising their work like real information books. We finished our gymnastics unit where the children made wonderful progress in their strength and flexibility. We are now very excited to have started our dance unit, where they will build on these skills in creative new ways. We are all looking forward to another busy and enjoyable month of learning ahead!

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CLASS UPDATES

Year 4

Year 4 have had another very busy and exciting month! In English, we enjoyed exploring our non-fiction text 'Wheels' before writing our own information texts about how helmets have changed over time. This linked perfectly with our wider learning as we have studied Roman and Anglo-Saxon helmets in History and then designed and made our own in DT back in the Autumn term. In Art, we had great fun experimenting with colour mixing and produced some fantastic final pieces, of beautiful still-life paintings of fruit and flowers that we are very proud of. This week, we also loved taking part in the interactive concert with Sonopera where we had a wonderful time singing along with Year 3. In Whole Class Reading, we have just begun our new class novel, Call Me Lion. Although we are only a few chapters in, we are already completely hooked by this thoughtful and engaging story about a young boy with selective mutism.

We're looking forward to another great month of learning ahead!







Year 5

5LS have had a very busy and productive month, filled with hands-on learning and memorable experiences. In Computing, the class has been exploring how inputs and conditions work in programming. They put this knowledge into practice by using a Crumble controller, experimenting with code to make lights turn on or stay off depending on different conditions. The children showed great perseverance and curiosity as they tested, debugged and refined their programs. A real highlight of the month was our brilliant visit to the synagogue; one of the oldest in Britain. The children were fascinated as they learned about the building's history, the importance of the ark and the Torah and the different people who have special roles within the synagogue community. Dressing up in traditional garments was a particular favourite and added a joyful, hands-on element to the experience. Back in the classroom, the children have produced some excellent writing inspired by the text 'Charles Dickens - scenes from an extraordinary life'. They combined diary-style reflections with factual information, creating thoughtful pieces that showed imagination and a growing confidence in their writing skills. Lastly, we finished our History learning with a visit to Sir Francis Drake's home, Buckland Abbey. We had a wonderful time handling replica artefacts, exploring the house and grounds and finding out more about Sir Francis Drake and his impact on Elizabethan Britain.









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CLASS UPDATES

6LG

6LG have been working hard this month - it seems to have flown past! The children have already demonstrated excellent learning attitudes in this new term, which is wonderful to see. In English, the children have been writing a range of non-fiction texts, including a letter, an explanation and a news report, inspired by our learning in History and Science. Children are using increasingly complex and sophisticated language and vocabulary, and adapting their writing to suit specific audiences and purposes. In Maths, the children have impressed us with their quick grasp of algebra, and their perseverance in finding multiple solutions to algebraic equations. Children were excited to participate in our PSHE activities around Mental Health Week, where we thought about the importance of belonging, our own identities, and how to ensure that all children felt safe, happy and welcome in our community. In History, we have continued to be fascinated by the courage and bravery of all those who protested and fought for change as part of the Civil Rights movements in America, and were surprised to learn more about how these protests continue into the children's own lifetimes through the 'Black Lives Matter' movement. After completing our gymnastics unit in PE, and demonstrating huge improvements in control, posture, and balance, the children are excited to explore the world of dance, using rhythm, movement and body percussion to create impressive sights and sounds. There's more fantastic learning ahead for 6LG!











6CL

The children have had a very successful start back after half term. The children are already working extremely hard and continue to show great perseverance, particularly in their Star Reading assessments where we have seen an excellent improvement in their ZPD scores! We have loved continuing our class text, Street Child, this month and we are all looking forward to discovering where Jim goes next on his journey out of the workhouse. Our next reading focus is developing inference skills and ensuring answers are supported with clear evidence from the text. In Maths, 6CL have been very successful with learning algebra, including learning the difference between equations and expressions, generating and describing linear number sequences and finding pairs of numbers that satisfy an equation with two unknowns. In Science, we have completed our unit on light and particularly enjoyed our final practical lesson where 6CL used the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain why shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them - planning and completing an investigation to test their ideas. Linked to this learning, in English, the children have written impressive explanation texts about how light works and how it enables us to see and live, using ambitious vocabulary and a range of clause structures. In Art, we were incredibly proud of the final lesson where the children created a street art inspired piece to convey an environmental message, carefully using perspective, scale and proportion to create impact. In P.E., gymnastics has been thoroughly enjoyed, especially our most recent lesson where Year 6 created group sequences using formations and apparatus, applying all the skills from the unit including developing straddle, forward and backward rolls, counter balance and counter tension, performing inverted movements with control and using flight from hands to travel over apparatus. We are very proud of the effort Year 6 are showing and are excited for another fantastic month of learning ahead.

BARNARDO'S

'Jump' with Dad

FREE

SOFT PLAY SESSION

at

Jump Plymouth

The 1st Tuesday of every month, 3.30-6pm
Starting from 7th January



PLYMOUTH FAMILY HUBS

jump

Find out what we're doing HERE

Scan the QR code for information from your local Family Hub- there is lots of support available

Attendance Update

Attendance - punctuality

We understand that mornings are busy times in family homes, and that sometimes it can be difficulty to get out of the door on time.

Arriving at school on time is an important part of your child's day. A calm, punctual start helps children settle quickly, feel confident, and be ready to learn and interact with their friends.
When children arrive late, even by just a few minutes, they can miss key instructions, important learning activities, and valuable social time with their peers.

Our doors open each morning from 8:25am-8:50am, and a healthy breakfast is always available for each of our children.

Thank you for your continued support in helping your child make the most of every school day.

ABSENCE CONCERNS

If you have any concerns or questions about your child's attendance please come and speak to us. Mrs Trembath is available to talk things through- we really are here to help and listen, and we can work with you to overcome any difficulties together.





Did You Know... ?

In a School Year, If Your Child is Late Every Day By...	Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...	or They Would Have Missed Approximately...
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	20 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	41 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	55 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	82 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	123 Lessons



inclusion@lairagreen.plymouth.sch.uk

Inclusion Update

If you have any questions or worries about your child, we are always here to listen. Please speak with the class teacher or call/email to arrange a time to come for a chat with Mrs Trembath

SLEEP

Sleep! It's something we all know we need, but sometimes it's easier said than done to get enough of it. Sleep is often a hot topic among parents, and there isn't a "one-size-fits-all" approach to helping children develop good sleep habits.
Good quality sleep allows our bodies and minds to rest and recharge, supporting healthy growth and development. However, many children can struggle to fall asleep or may wake during the night. When we don't get enough sleep, it can have a big impact - making it harder to concentrate during the day and leaving us feeling less able to cope.

For more information and helpful tips about improving sleep, please follow the QR code below.

Sleep tips to try at home

- Where possible, turn off all screens an hour before bedtime, this includes television, laptops, tablets and mobile phones. Screen activities can be mentally stimulating and also may inhibit the production of melatonin, the sleep hormone that helps us to feel drowsy.
- Try to have a consistent bedtime routine (e.g. having a bath, brushing teeth, and then a bedtime story)
- Listening to an audio book or sleep meditation.
- Exercising regularly tends to help people sleep better
- Fine motor skill activities such as craft activities, lego, jigsaws or colouring pictures can aid relaxation
- Sensory movements such as flopping repeatedly onto cushions or gently pressing a cushion onto each part of the body
- Progressively relax the muscles in the body. Begin by tensing feet to the count of 5 and then letting them relax. Next move up the body tensing and relaxing each body part.

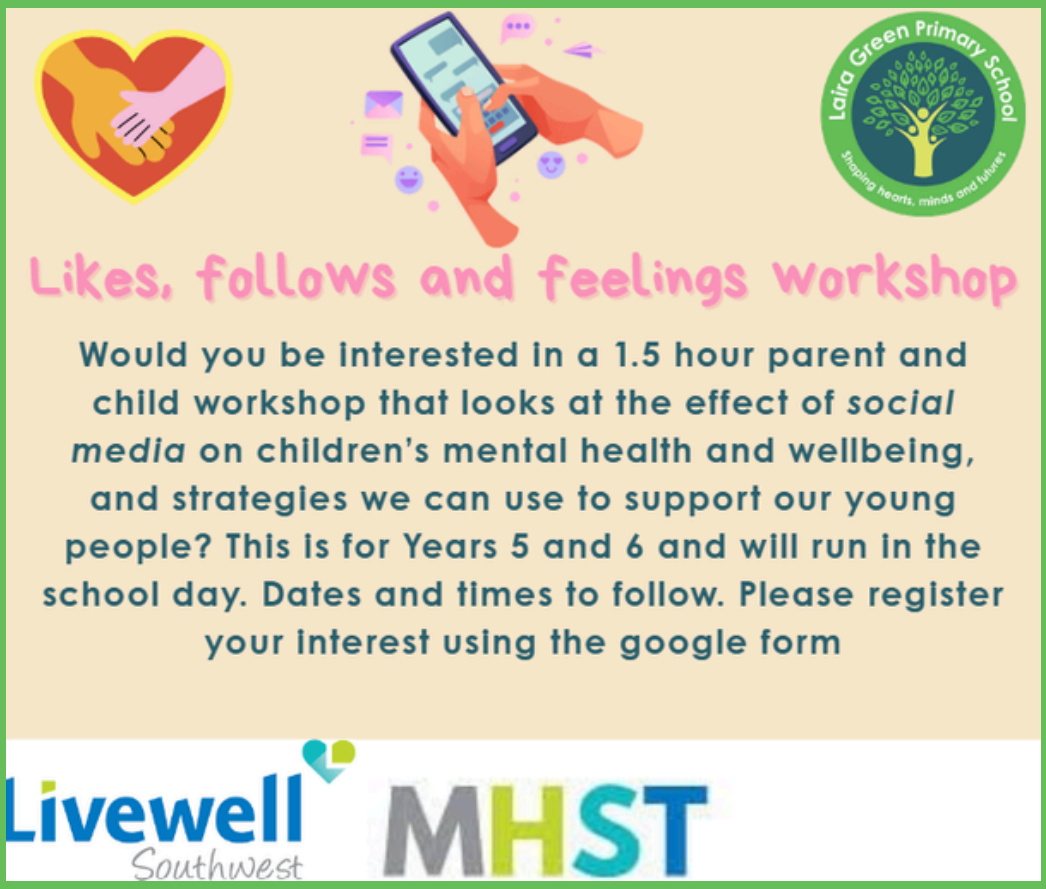


For more information about sleep please have a look at:

The Sleep charity -
https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/information-support/children/relaxation-tips/

Cerebra -
https://cerebra.org.uk/get-advice-support/sleep-advice-service/

inclusion@lairagreen.plymouth.sch.uk



Google form for 'Likes, follows and feelings' workshop



Laira Green Primary School Council

This month, our School Council had the exciting opportunity to visit the Lord Mayor of Plymouth, Councillor Kathy Watkin. We really enjoyed asking her questions and learning more about her important role in the city. During our visit, we discovered the fascinating history of the ceremonial mace and were able to see the different robes the Lord Mayor wears for special occasions.

Councillor Watkin explained her responsibilities when working with the Plymouth City Council. These include chairing City Council meetings, making sure all points of view are fairly heard, ensuring that council members follow the correct rules and procedures. She also told us about the many civic and ceremonial events she attends throughout the year.

We then had a tour of the Council Chambers, where real council meetings take place. It was very exciting to sit in the seats where councillors make important decisions. We also took part in a mock debate, which helped us understand how meetings are run. We shared our opinions, listened to others, and voted on an issue, just like real councillors. It was a fantastic experience, and we learned so much about how our city is led and represented.

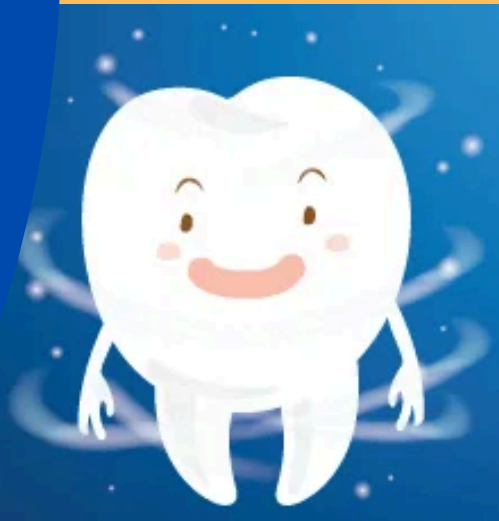
Inspired by our visit, we are now working on our own "Pick Up After Your Pets" campaign to help keep our community clean and safe. We are very excited and proud to be preparing to present our campaign to our local councillors, Pauline Murphy, Paul McNamara and Neil Hendy. We are looking forward to sharing our ideas and explaining why this issue is important to us. This experience has helped us understand how we can use our voices to improve our local area.



NUVO DENTIST PLYMOUTH ARE STILL OFFERING NHS APPOINTMENTS FOR CHILDREN UNDER 16 YEARS OLD.

CALL 01752 559387 OR VISIT THEIR WEBSITE

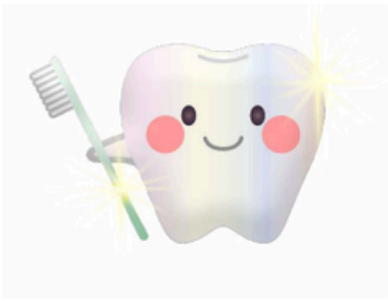
https://www.nuvodental.co.uk



BENEFITS OF GOOD ORAL CARE HABITS

PRIMARY TEETH PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN HOW CHILDREN LEARN TO CHEW, SMILE, AND TALK.

HAVING HEALTHY TEETH HELPS WITH CONFIDENCE AND PARTICIPATION IN THEIR EDUCATION AND SOCIAL LIFE.



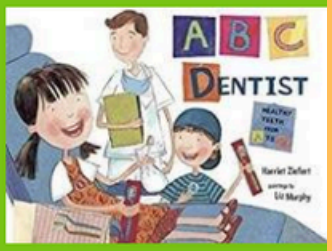
10 GREAT READS FOR HEALTHY SMILES

Community Dental Services

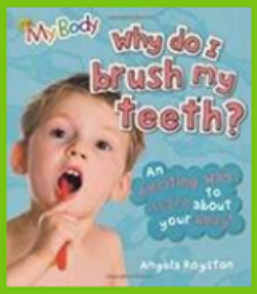
Open wide… What's Inside? BY Alex & Helen Rushworth



ABC Dentist: Healthy Teeth from A to Z By Harriet Ziefert



Why do I brush my teeth? By Angela Royston



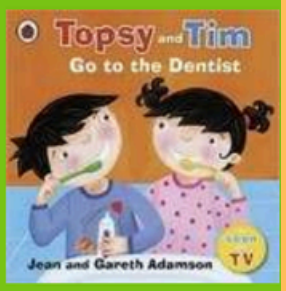
What are Germs? By Katie Daynes



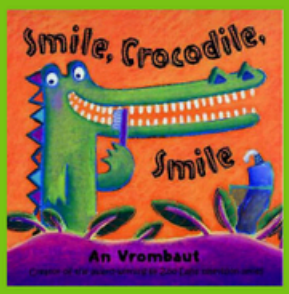
Peppa Pig: Dentist Trip By E1 entertainment



Topsy and Tim go to the Dentist By Jean Adamson



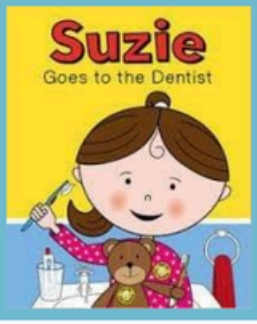
Smile Crocodile, Smile by Vrombaut



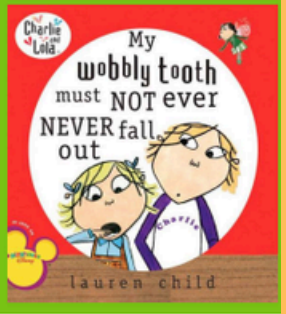
Bear and the Wobbly Tooth by Rowena Blythe



Suzie Goes to the Dentist by Charlotte Olson



My Wobbly Tooth Must Not Ever Never Fall Out by Lauren Child



A Month in Pictures



















A Month in Pictures

















