

First Trip to the Dentist

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Tammy was scared! She was so scared that she was terrified.

Today was her first trip to the dentist. She didn't know what to expect. What would happen? Would it hurt? Would she cry or scream?

Mom said it was no big deal, but Tammy didn't know. How bad would it be? She was just getting her teeth cleaned. They would scrape off the bad stuff. Then they would take pictures of her teeth to see if they were rotten.

That didn't sound too bad. She cleaned her teeth at home already. She wanted clean teeth. She didn't want rotten teeth. She liked to smile. Pictures and cleaning sounded okay with her.

At the office, there were many people waiting. There was a fish tank to look at and magazines to read. She didn't have to wait long, though. Soon it was her turn.



The dentist was a kind old man. He looked like a doctor. He smiled and she sat in a silly chair. There were lots of lights and tools. It was a little scary when she opened her mouth. He looked REALLY closely.

He scraped at her teeth. He polished her teeth. He flossed her teeth. He put some fluoride in her mouth. It tasted pretty bad, but she did it. He took pictures of her teeth with a weird camera. Then she was done.

That was it? That wasn't that scary. She'd come back again in six months!

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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. Where was Tammy going to see?
 - A. the nurse
 - B. the doctor
 - C. the dentist
 - D. the teacher

2. YES OR NO: Was this Tammy's first visit to the dentist?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

3. How does Tammy feel at first about going to the dentist?
 - A. She's scared at first.
 - B. She's happy at first.
 - C. She's bored at first.
 - D. She's interested at first.

4. Which of these did the dentist NOT do to her teeth?
 - A. floss them
 - B. take pictures of them
 - C. scrape them
 - D. drill them

5. How does Tammy feel about the dentist after she finishes her first visit?
 - A. She thinks it is very scary.
 - B. She thinks it is okay.
 - C. She thinks she can go back again.
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