**Why so early?**

By visiting the dentist early, your child can get to know the dentist, and the dentist will be able to learn about your child’s dental needs before problems occur. Your child will feel better about the dentist if the first visit is a positive, happy experience as opposed to one that is scary or for a painful emergency.

**What kind of dentist should a child see?**

Most often, young children will see either a pediatric dentist or a family dentist. A pediatric dentist is a dentist that has been specially trained to see children of all ages. A family dentist may see children as well as older family members, such as parents or grandparents. The choice is up to you.

To find a kid-friendly dentist in your area, visit the website of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry at www.aapd.org, or ask your pediatrician, co-workers or friends with young children for a referral.

**What can you expect?**

- The dentist will have you stay with your baby.
- The dentist will examine your baby’s mouth.
- The dentist will talk with you.