

Expanded Learning Activities for “Throw Your Tooth on the Roof”

Brought to you by the Early Childhood Dental Network

This book is recommended for children ages 5 and up.

For the adult caregiver reading this book:

Learn about tooth traditions all over the world and what children in other countries do with their loose teeth. You will be surprised at some of the similarities and differences between the customs. The end of the book provides the reader with great “tooth” facts.

Before you read, talk with the child(ren) about traditions and where they come from.

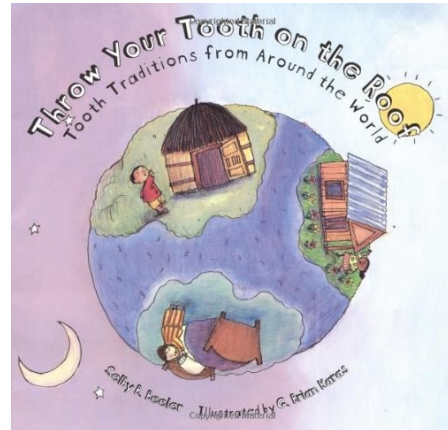
Ask the child(ren) about some of their family’s traditions. Does their family have a loose tooth tradition?

While you read, point out the different countries (on the world map provided) to the child(ren) while you read about that country’s tradition.

After you have read the book, ask the child(ren):

- How many countries’ traditions include putting the tooth under the pillow?
- How many countries’ traditions include burying the tooth?
- How many countries’ traditions include throwing the tooth on the roof?
- How many countries’ traditions include an animal?
- Looking at the map, do you see any patterns?
- Why do you think there is a pattern?

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Song to Sing—

“Oh When My Teeth, Come Growing In”

Sung to the tune of “Oh When the Saints Go Marching In”

Oh when my teeth, come growing in
Oh when my teeth come growing in
I’m gonna brush and floss and rinse
Oh when my teeth come growing in!

Oh when the plaque goes marching out
Oh when the plaque goes marching out
I’m going to sing, and laugh and be proud
Oh when the plaque goes marching out!

Activity:

Humans get two sets of teeth, but some animals get more, some only one! Help the child(ren) do some research on different animals and their teeth. Some fun animals to research are: sharks, beavers, rats, cows and snakes. Depending on the age of the child(ren), write or draw their findings.

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