

Name: Alexis Peterson
Field Facility: Jana O'Rourke
Audience: Zoo Easter Egg Hunt Kiddo's
Date: 4/3/2021

Community Dental Health Journal

Perception of the audience: (physical, mental, attention, social, management of audience – controlled/uncontrolled; modifications)

- **Physically:** We interacted physically with our audience by using a typodont and large toothbrush. We had the kids demonstrate how they typically brush their teeth using the typodont, and then encouraged them in correct brushing techniques.
- **Mentally:** Our audience age group was fairly young, so making sure our content was something they could understand was important! We had a maze game we handed out, a craft in which they could make a box for future teeth they lose, and each participant received an egg filled with a surprise.
- **Attention:** Because our audience was younger, their attention span was pretty short. But we did a good job of staying engaged with them through the games we incorporated! Additionally, making sure that we talked clearly and at a level they could understand.
- **Social:** About 2,000 children/parents attended the "Egg-stravaganza"
- **Management of audience:** Uncontrolled, although we had an idea of the type of people we were presenting to (children), we didn't have exact age ranges. Though, teens and parents also participated from time to time.
- **Modifications:** In the future I would have loved to have more supplies to hand out to the participants (both kids and parents). We ran out of toothbrushes and tooth paste pretty quickly. Having more of a wide range of products would have been helpful, such as child toothbrush sizes (we only had standard size), floss, and mouthwash.

Goal(s) accomplished: (yes/no; add/subtract; modifications)

- Yes, all our goals were accomplished! Our goal was to educate children and adults on preventative techniques they can use throughout their lifetime to better maintain good oral health. We encouraged brushing frequency and techniques.
- Modifications: Next time I would incorporate more discussion on flossing. We didn't have any to hand out and only discussed it with a few participants due to the short amount of time spent with each person.

Objectives Accomplished: (yes/no; add/subtract; modifications)

- Yes, objectives were accomplished! Children were able to effectively show how to properly brush their teeth after demonstration. Some also showed us which foods were good and which were bad for their teeth. The kids were able to complete the dental maze handed out! The only objective not completed was the tooth-fairy box. This was a box the kids could put together to store the teeth they lose. It was given out to each

child, but we did not watch them complete it, it was designed to be a craft for them to do on their own time.

Self-evaluation critique: (Time management; materials presented; subject matter; overall feelings; modifications)

- **Time management:** Our time was utilized well! There was a continual steady flow of people coming in, during the 3 hours we were there. We managed our time with each child well, giving them each about 3 minutes at least, while social distancing! It did get just a little crowded at times, but we all handled it well, and with the five of us it was no problem.
- **Materials presented:** As noted already, we used a large typodont and toothbrush to demonstrate correct tooth brushing. As well many different games to help children improve their oral hygiene through better food choices. We supplied the kids with a maze-game, a tooth box craft, toothbrush and tooth paste (while supplies was available), and gave each child a plastic egg with candy inside.
- **Subject matter:** We discussed toothbrushing techniques, nutrition/food choices (what foods are good and what foods are bad for your teeth). The overall presentation was very effective. The kids loved the typodont! One kid got so excited when we asked him to demonstrate how he brushes his teeth that he just about used the giant toothbrush on himself! Thankfully we caught him in time. Another kid wanted to start working on her tooth fairy box right away, definitely a hit!
- **Overall feelings:** I loved this project! It was so fun to interact with the kids and see how excited they got about improving their oral hygiene.
- **Modifications:** I loved working with everyone in my group, we all seemed to have a fun time and worked together well. Though, I personally I think that 5 people in one group for this project was a little overwhelming. In the future I think keeping groups to a max of 3 would be more beneficial. It ensures that everyone participates and that the kids aren't overwhelmed. But we made it work and had a really good time!

Document effectiveness of community oral health intervention: (questions asked by audience; modifications – strengths/weakness, add/subtract; recommendations)

- **Questions asked by audience:** “How frequently should I be brushing?” and “should I brush before or after breakfast”. These questions were asked by the parents. Informed them that brushing twice a day and flossing once is beneficial for oral health. Explained that brushing right after you get up, before starting the day and before breakfast is most beneficial. Further clarifying that this is because when you sleep your body builds up bacteria in your mouth that needs to be removed. Joked with parents that brushing in the morning isn't only to get rid of the bad morning breath but explained the bacteria can lead to decay if it is not properly removed.
- **Modifications:**
 - o **Strengths:** The games we incorporated and activities we had really kept the kids engaged and they all seemed to really love learning.
 - o **Weakness:** The sign we had explaining who we were kept falling over due to the wind. Next time it would be good if we found a better way to show who we are

so participants are initially confused. Also, in the future I hope there is more access to dental supplies, we ran out very fast and were only left with candy to hand out by the end of the day. It didn't look so good coming from Hygiene students...

- **Add/subtract:** I wouldn't subtract anything, I loved everything we included! But I would definitely add more in the future! Having a wider range of supplies would have been helpful, more material directed toward the parents, and a better sign set up!
- **Recommendations:** I would highly recommend this project to any student in the future, it was a great way to engage with kids and help improve their oral hygiene!