



Dentistry

Merit Badge Workbook

This workbook can help you but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet (book). No one can add or subtract from the Boy Scout Requirements #33216. Each Scout must do each requirement. Merit Badge Workbooks and more: [Online Resources](#). Send comments to the workbook developer: craig@craiglincoln.com. Requirements revised: 01/1/10, Workbook updated: 02/10.

Scout's Name: _____ Unit: _____

Counselor's Name: _____ Counselor's Ph #: _____

1. Using x-ray (radiographic) films and with your counselor's guidance, study the tooth structure and look for decay. Then do the following:

- a. Using the radiographs as a guide, draw a lower molar. Label its parts and surfaces. Show surrounding structures such as bone and gum tissues.
- b. Show on your drawing where the nerves and blood vessels enter the tooth.
- c. Show on your drawing where bacterial plaque is most likely to be found.

2. Do the following:

a. Tell or write about what causes dental decay and gum disease. _____

Tell how each of the following contributes to dental decay and gum disease: bacterial plaque, _____

sugars, _____

and acid. _____

b. Tell the possible causes for traumatic tooth loss, _____

describe the types of mouth guards used to prevent tooth trauma, _____

and list the athletic activities during which a person should wear a mouth guard. _____

c. Explain the first-aid procedure for saving a tooth that has been knocked out. _____

d. Discuss how the use of tobacco products can negatively affect your oral health _____

3. Arrange for a visit with a dentist. Before you go, ask whether your visit can include a dental examination and a plaque-control demonstration. Afterward, ask questions about things you want to know. _____

Then tell your counselor what the dentist does in a checkup examination. _____

4. Do TWO of the following:

a. Name at least five instruments _____

and five pieces of equipment a dentist uses. _____

b. With the help of a dentist, prepare a dental stone cast using a vibrator, a mixing bowl, a water measure, a plastic measure, model stone, and a spatula.

c. Keep a record of everything you eat for three days. Circle those items that could provide the sugars that bacterial plaque needs to make acid.

List snacks that you should avoid to help maintain the best oral health.

5. Discuss with your merit badge counselor the following:

a. How fluorides help prevent tooth decay _____

and the ways fluorides can be provided to the teeth. _____

b. How the mouth is related to the rest of the body. Topics might include chewing, _____

saliva, _____

enzymes, _____

nutrition, _____

and speech. _____

6. Do TWO of the following:

a. Make a model tooth of soap, clay, papier-mâché, or wax. Using a string and a large hand brush, show your troop or a school class proper toothbrushing and flossing procedures. (*Per National, "troop" means "unit".*)

b. Make a poster on prevention of dental disease. Show the importance of good oral health.

c. Collect at least five advertisements for different toothpastes. List the claims that each one makes. Tell about the accuracy of the advertisements.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

d. Write a feature story for your school newspaper on the proper care of teeth and gums.

e. Make drawings and write about the progress of dental decay.

Describe the types of dental filling and treatments a dentist can use to repair dental decay problems. _____

7. Find out about three career opportunities in dentistry. _____

Pick one _____

and find out the education, _____

training, _____

and experience required for this profession. _____

Discuss this with your counselor, and explain why this profession might interest you. _____

Online Resources (Use any Internet resource with caution and only with your parent's or guardian's permission.)

Boy Scouts of America: ▶ scouting.org ▶ [Guide to Safe Scouting](#) ▶ [Age-Appropriate Guidelines](#) ▶ [Safe Swim Defense](#)
▶ [Scout](#) ▶ [Tenderfoot](#) ▶ [Second Class](#) ▶ [First Class](#) ▶ [Rank Videos](#) ▶ [Safety Afloat](#)

Boy Scout Merit Badge Workbooks: usscouts.org -or- meritbadge.org **Merit Badge Books:** www.scoutstuff.org

Academy of General Dentistry: <http://www.agd.org>

Amer. Academy of Periodontology: <http://www.perio.org>

Amer. Assn. of Orthodontists: <http://www.braces.org>

Amer. Dental Assistants Assn.: <http://www.dentalassistant.org>

Amer. Dental Hygienists' Assn.: <http://www.adha.org>

Amer. Assn. of Endodontists: <http://www.aae.org>

Amer. College of Prosthodontists: <http://www.prosthodontics.org>

Amer. Dental Assn.: <http://www.ada.org>