Vocabulary

- Deciduous teeth: “baby teeth” that fall out and are replaced by permanent teeth.

- Dental formula: a way of showing how many of each kind of tooth an animal has.

- Eruption: the act of a tooth first emerging from the gum and becoming visible.

- Galvayne’s Groove: the vertical groove in a horse’s incisor that develops with age, starting at the gums and extending to the tip of the tooth.

The Veterinary Black Bag Program

Project Goals:
- Develop Veterinarian’s Black Bags (VBBs) of instructional items and pamphlets for middle school teachers to support classroom visits by local veterinarians.
- Provide professional development for veterinarians and teachers on how to use items in the VBBs.
- Promote inquiry-based thinking about health-related subjects while emphasizing the value of biomedical research and promoting careers in science.

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Animal Teeth

Follow Up Lesson

· Deciduous teeth: “baby teeth” that fall out and are replaced by permanent teeth.

· Dental formula: a way of showing how many of each kind of tooth an animal has.

· Eruption: the act of a tooth first emerging from the gum and becoming visible.

· Galvayne’s Groove: the vertical groove in a horse’s incisor that develops with age, starting at the gums and extending to the tip of the tooth.
In this lesson, students will age horses by analyzing pictures of their teeth. Students will read “Straight from the Horse’s Mouth” handout, which contains information about teeth and the different methods veterinarians use to age horses with their teeth. After reading the handout, the students will apply their knowledge about aging horses by competing in the game, “Age That Horse!”

Objectives

1. Describe role of deciduous and permanent teeth.
2. Describe how dental formula can be used to age veterinary patients – horse.

Useful Background Information

Teeth wear down with age. In addition to problems with cavities and periodontal disease, the teeth change shape as an animal ages due to wear and tear. In fact, the process is predictable enough that one can use the appearance of teeth to give an approximate estimate of age.