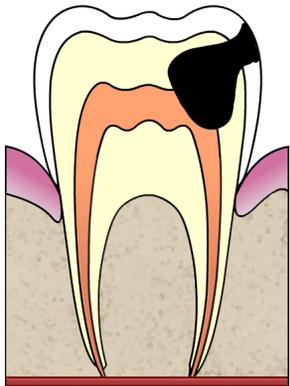


Do Pets get Cavities? Not Usually.

Cavities are caused by bacteria growing on trapped food. In humans, one of the main causes of cavities is eating too much sugar. Because pets don't (**and/or shouldn't**) be consuming foods containing sugar, it lowers the risk for cavities significantly.



Toothpaste Enzymes

- Enzymes are target specific (they only break down specific kinds of starches or proteins)
- The manufacturer may not always explain on the label what kinds of enzymes are in the toothpaste.
- How well they work in the toothpaste may be debatable.

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.



PEER

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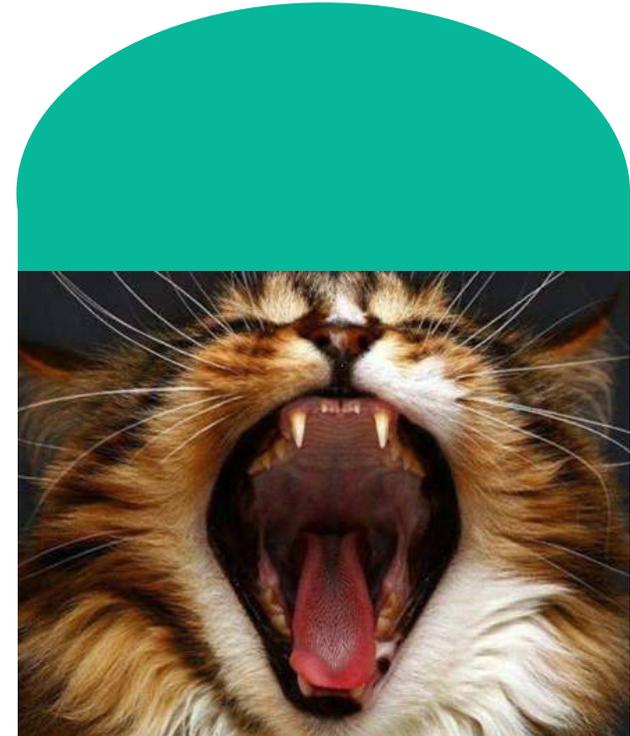
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MS#4458



<http://peer.tamu.edu/VBB/Summary.asp>

Dental Health

Veterinarian's Presentation



The instruction in this module includes:
Presentation on *Dental Health*

Follow-up lessons on:

Animal Teeth

FDA and Your Teeth

Bacteria and Dental Health

Periodontal disease affects 85% of cats and dogs over 5 years of age.

What do Veterinarians look for when performing a Dental Exam?

- Look for signs of disease
- Look for broken and/or missing teeth
- Look for occlusal relationships
- Approximate the age of the animal

What can dental disease do to my animal?

- Cause pain
- Result in tooth loss
- Make eating difficult
- Lead to infections
- Lead to inactivity

What causes periodontal disease?

- Bacteria forms plaques on the teeth
- Plaque hardens to form calculus
- Plaque starts to touch the gums
- Bacteria and immune system release destructive chemicals
- Destroys the attachment of the tooth to the gum



Healthy Teeth



Stage 1 Periodontal Disease



Stage 4 Periodontal Disease



What Can I do to Prevent Periodontal Disease in my Pet?

Brush your pet's teeth!

- Lift lips
- Rub their gums and teeth
- Brush gently with a finger brush or soft tooth brush
- Brush gently with pet toothpaste on the finger brush or toothbrush

Pet Toothpaste

- Contain enzymes to break down proteins and starches

Pet Chew Toys

- Gumabones®
- Havaball Chew Toy
- C.E.T. Dual Enzyme Chews and HEXtra Chews