

## **Post-Operative Instructions**

Your child has had dental caries removed and teeth repaired. We are glad that we are on the road to excellent dental health. Please review the instructions indicated below to help your child have an uneventful post-operative experience. We suggest returning to normal daily activities as soon as possible.

☐ Anesthesia: Your child received dental anesthesia and should avoid biting the affected lip, cheek and tongue. Eating chewy foods should be avoided for at least 2 hours.
☐ Composite (tooth colored) filling on a front tooth:  Composite fillings are very strong, however several things will shorten their life.  Please help your child avoid using the front teeth as a pair of pliers would be used to pull on toys or other foreign objects. Chewing fingernails and hard sticky candies should also be avoided.
☐ Composite (tooth colored) filling or amalgam (silver) filling on a back tooth:  Composite fillings are very strong, however several things will shorten their life. Please help your child avoid hard, crunchy foods (ice, nuts, seeds, hard candies, etc.) for the remainder of the day. Normal eating may resume tomorrow.
☐ Stainless Steel Crown or Space Maintainer:  Stainless Steel Crowns and Space Maintainers are cemented to the tooth and should not come off until the tooth is lost naturally (only in the case of a primary tooth). To facilitate this, please help your child avoid sticky foods and candies (Jolly Ranchers, Laffy Taffy, Tootsie Rolls, caramels, etc.). This is important as long as the restoration is present.
☐ Temporary filling:  This restoration is placed to allow the tooth some time to recover from injury and will be replaced with a more durable restoration at a later date. Please help your child avoid sticky foods and candies. A return visit should be scheduled to place the durable restoration.

If you have any questions, call (913)782-2207.

