

# Deciduous Teeth & Timelines



**MARCH 2024**

# BABY TEETH

Deciduous teeth formation occurs during the fetal stage, which is around 5 weeks of fetal development. Due to genetics, every child's tooth will erupt at different times, the common names for "deciduous teeth" are "baby teeth, milk teeth, first teeth, and primary teeth".

The names of the different types of teeth are:

- The front teeth in your upper and lower jaws are called incisors.
- The canines are the pointed teeth on either side of the incisors in the upper and lower jaw.
- Premolar teeth
- Molar teeth

At 6 months old, most children have their first teeth, and by 12 months, they have their upper, lower, and lateral incisors (front teeth). The upper and lower canines erupt at approximately 16–22 months, the first molars appear between 14 and 18 months, and the last set of second molars appears by no later than 33 months.

In the same order, primary teeth fall out. Between the ages of 6 and 8, their incisors fall out first and are replaced by permanent adult teeth. Their final pair of second molars will often come out between the ages of 10 and 12, while their canines and first molars fall out between the ages of 9 and 12. Children start losing their primary teeth around the age of 6, and those are replaced by permanent teeth by 12 to 13 years old.

Symptoms related to teething usually last around 48 hours. If your child has these symptoms, for a longer period, it is important to speak to your family doctor to check other causes such as bacterial, viral or middle ear infections. Sometimes, you may see a blue-grey bubble on the gum where the tooth is about to appear. This is called an eruption cyst and usually goes away when the tooth erupts. During this time, it is important to provide the child with additional support to keep them comfortable.

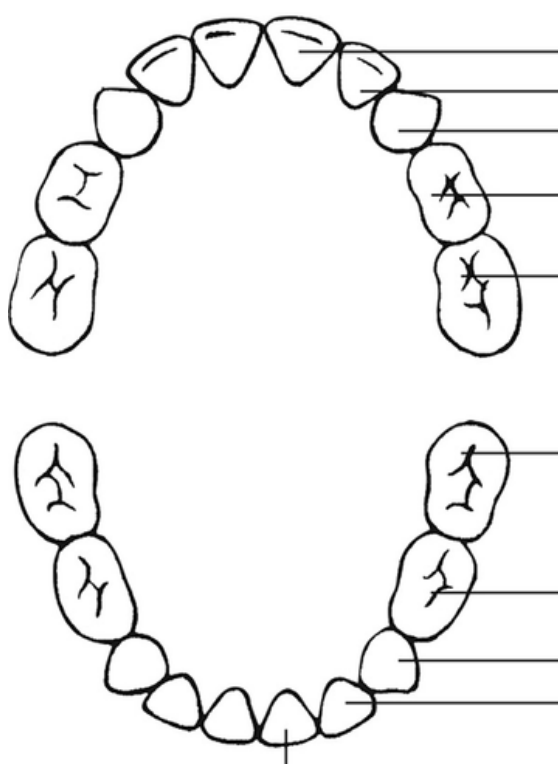


## Certain measures to ease teething problems include:

- Gently massaging the gums with clean hands or a lukewarm towel.
- Teething rings that are chilled (not frozen).
- Infants who have started eating solids and are older than 6 months old may be given unsweetened teething rusks/biscuits or sugar-free teething biscuits.
- Paracetamol can be given to children as follows:
  - i. In a liquid syrup form – from the age of 2 months old
  - ii. As a suppository – from the age of 2 months old
  - iii. In a tablet form (including soluble tablets) – from the age of 6 years old

## References

1. Professional, C.C. medical (no date) Teething (teething syndrome), Cleveland Clinic. Available at: <https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/articles/11179-teething-teething-syndrome> (Accessed: 26 February 2024).
2. Smith-Garcia, D. (2020) When do baby teeth fall out? age, order, complications, more, Healthline. Available at: <https://www.healthline.com/health/childrens-health/baby-teeth-fall-out> (Accessed: 26 February 2024).



Upper Teeth		Erupt	Shed
Central incisor		8-12 mos.	6-7 yrs.
Lateral incisor		9-13 mos.	7-8 yrs.
Canine (cuspid)		16-22 mos.	10-12 yrs.
First molar		13-19 mos.	9-11 yrs.
Second molar		25-33 mos.	10-12 yrs.
Lower Teeth		Erupt	Shed
Second molar		23-31 mos.	10-12 yrs.
First molar		14-18 mos.	9-11 yrs.
Canine (cuspid)		17-23 mos.	9-12 yrs.
Lateral incisor		10-16 mos.	7-8 yrs.
Central incisor		6-10 mos.	6-7 yrs.