

# Prevent a child losing their smile



## FIRST AID ADVICE

### If an 'adult' tooth is knocked out, all is not lost!

If a tooth is knocked out don't panic but act quickly. Follow these simple steps and you may save a smile.

- 1. Find the tooth.** Hold the tooth by the crown (the part usually visible in the mouth) not by the root (the pointed end).  
**Do not** scrub the tooth or place it in disinfectant.
- 2. If the tooth is clean.** Hold it by the crown and gently push it back into its socket, making sure that it is the right way round. This is usually painless if done immediately after the accident.
- 3. If the tooth is dirty.** Rinse it in milk or cold water before gently pushing it back into place.
- 4. Hold the tooth in place.** Ask the child to bite on a clean handkerchief.
- 5. Go to your dentist immediately.** If this is not possible go to your hospital casualty department and ask to be seen by the dentist on duty.

### If you can't put the tooth back in.

- 1. Place it in a cup of milk.**  
**Do not** scrub the tooth.  
**Do not** let the tooth become dry.  
**Do not** place the tooth in disinfectant.
- 2. Go to your dentist immediately.** If this is not possible go to your hospital casualty department and ask to be seen by the dentist on duty.

Produced in partnership with the School of Dentistry, The University of Manchester.