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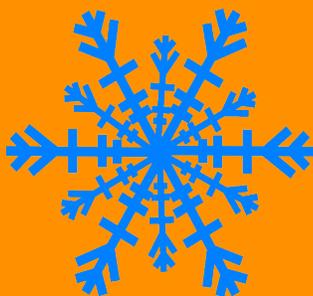
Gator News

January 2018



Announcing the
January Patient
Contest

Find the
Matching
Snowflakes!



Fun winter scenes are on snowflakes hanging in the Alligator Dental waiting areas. Find the matches and enter to win a cozy

Winter Warm
Gift Pack!

(Filled with items to keep you cozy when it's cold outside!)

Awesome Advice

FROM DR. ANAS ~

Thumbs, Fingers & Pacifiers: Beating the Habit!



Happy New Year! It's the time of year that brings resolutions to end old habits and hopefully make new, positive ones. One habit that young children often struggle with is sucking a thumb, finger or pacifier.

The Facts:

- This type of sucking is completely normal for babies and young children.
- Sucking provides security.
- For young babies, sucking is a way to make contact with and learn about their world.
- Many babies begin to suck on fingers or thumbs even before they are born!

Is it bad?

The good news is that most children stop sucking habits on their own between 2-4 years of age. However, some children continue over long periods of time. Prolonged sucking habits are the ones to watch out for.

Effects of prolonged sucking habits:

- Upper front teeth may tip toward the lip
- Bite may be affected
- Growth of jaw and bones that support the teeth may be affected

Are pacifiers better than fingers/thumbs?

Thumb, finger and pacifier sucking essentially affect the teeth and jaw in the same way. However, a pacifier habit is often easier to break.

What can parents do?

When a child is old enough to understand the negative consequences of a sucking habit, enlist the help of your pediatric dentist to encourage your child to stop. The dentist will explain the negative effects to teeth and jaw. If this is not effective, your pediatric dentist may recommend ways to change the behavior, including a mouth appliance that interferes with the sucking habit.



Dr. Anas Hakimah





Gators in Action:

Alligator Dental was excited to sponsor some fun community events in December!



Our Green Gator Mint Hot Chocolate, giant Plinko game & awesome glow prizes were a hit at the Seguin Sip & Stroll.



The Gator Crew had a blast hanging out with the kids at the San Marcos Jingle Bell Run & Seguin Country Christmas 5K!



Meet Dave Moore
Assistant Manager at Alligator Dental in Seguin!

Family Info:

Married to Jean. We have 2 sons, Dillinger and Maverick

Favorite Place to Eat:

1838 Grill in Seguin

Favorite Kids Movie:

Academy Sports

Favorite Place to Visit:

Port Aransas

Something Unique about me:

I am raising my kids in the same house I grew up in!

Recipe: Oreo Snowballs

-Compliments of Rachel from Alligator Dental in San Marcos

Ingredients:

8 oz. package cream cheese, softened
40 OREO cookies, finely crushed, divided
4 pkg. (4 oz. each) Bakers white chocolate, broken into pieces, melted (Can use semi-sweet if you prefer chocolate snowballs)



Directions:

1. Mix cream cheese and 3 cups cookie crumbs until blended.
2. Shape into 48 (1-inch) balls. Freeze 10 minutes.
3. Dip balls into melted white chocolate; place in single layer in shallow pan, lined with waxed paper.
4. Sprinkle with remaining cookie crumbs.
5. Refrigerate 1 hour, until firm.

Note: Making traditional Oreo Balls with white melted chocolate (or white candy coating) creates a fun snowball treat to enjoy in January!



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