

# SEAL OUT DECAY

The first step in having healthy teeth is preventing tooth decay. Sealants can protect your child's teeth against cavities.



## WHAT IS A SEALANT?

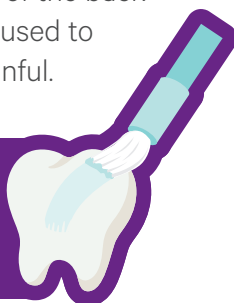
A sealant is a thin plastic coating that is placed on the chewing surface of the back teeth. Sealants keep food and bacteria away from the grooves of these teeth. Sealants will protect the teeth from plaque and acids. Plaque can change the sugar and starch from food into harmful acids that attack the teeth and cause cavities. Sealants protect the grooves of the back teeth by sealing out the plaque, food and acids.

## WHO SHOULD GET SEALANTS?

All children should have sealants placed on their back teeth as soon as the tooth erupts. Sealants can only be placed on teeth that do not have cavities. That is why it is important to take your child to the dentist every 6 months so that the sealants can be applied as soon as the back teeth erupt.

## HOW ARE SEALANTS PUT ONTO TEETH?

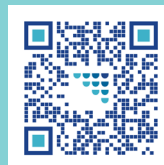
Your dentist will place sealants on your child's teeth. Sealants are easy to apply and it only takes a few minutes. After cleaning the tooth, the sealant is painted onto the grooves of the back teeth and it hardens. Sometimes a special light is used to help harden the sealant. This procedure is not painful.



**GIVE YOUR CHILD THE BEST CHANCE FOR  
HEALTHY TEETH BY SEALING OUT DECAY!**

Looking for health and wellness resources?

There are places near you that can help! Visit **DentaQuest's Community Resource** page to view a list of resources in your area. Just use your smartphone camera to scan this code.



Hover over the code and tap on your screen.

