



PEDIATRIC DENTAL
SPECIALISTS OF WEST MICHIGAN
STEPHANIE KLOOSTRA, DDS, MS • KATHRYN SWANSON, DDS

Space Maintainer Post-Operative Care

The purpose of space maintainers are to hold space open for the developing permanent tooth to erupt into and assist in minimizing orthodontic needs in the future. It will be left in place until the permanent tooth

Comfort: Teeth may be tender or sensitive for the first few days and feel "different" after it is placed. Over-the-counter pain medication may be given in the appropriate dose

Diet & Oral Hygiene: It is important that your child avoids chewing gum and eating sticky foods (i.e. caramels, taffy, gummies). These foods can dislodge or break the appliance.

It is very important to maintain excellent oral hygiene after the placement of a space maintainer. Food and plaque can easily get trapped around the appliance. Your child must brush their teeth twice a day, taking extra care to brush well around the spacer and the bands. Gums may become red and inflamed if not brushed well.

Loose Space Maintainer: If the space maintainer breaks or becomes loose and you are able to take it out of your child's mouth, please place it in an envelope and call our office immediately. The dentist

If you have any questions/concerns regarding your child's space maintainer, please feel free to call our office!

**Pediatric Dental Specialists of West Michigan
2155 East Paris Ave SE, Suite 120
Grand Rapids, MI 49546**