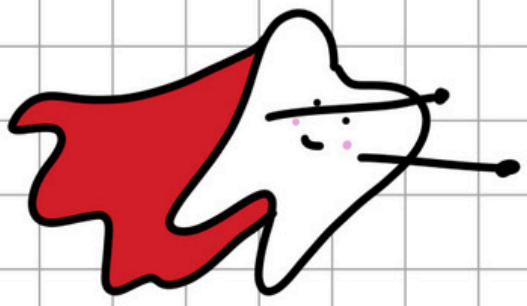
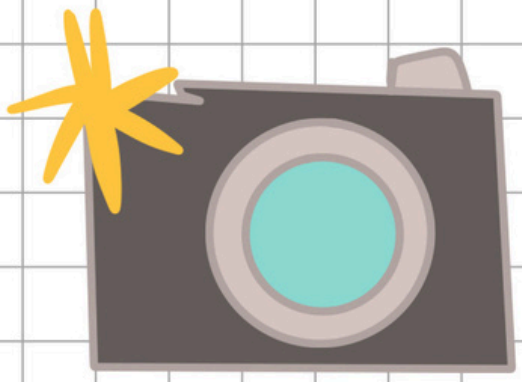
# Teacher Lesson Guide

## THE SUPERHERO TOOTH CAMERA





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# Lesson Overview

## Subject

Dental Health Education

## Suggested Audience

Early Elementary Students

## Suggested Time

20–30 minutes



## Lesson Overview

In The Superhero Tooth Camera, students follow Leo as he discovers how dental X-rays help dentists see parts of teeth that cannot be seen during a regular visual examination.

Through storytelling and discussion, students learn what dental X-rays are, why dentists use them, and why staying still during an X-ray is important.

## Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students should be able to

1. Explain why dentists sometimes take X-rays.
2. Identify the visible crown and hidden roots of a tooth.
3. Describe how a dental X-ray helps dentists see beneath the gums.
4. Explain why patients are asked to stay still during an X-ray.
5. Recall the main events of Leo's dental X-ray experience.

# Materials



- The Superhero Tooth Camera storybook
- Children's activity sheet
- Pencils and crayons or color pencils
- Optional: Tooth diagram or dental X-ray image

# Before Reading (5 minutes)



Begin by asking students

- Have you ever visited a dentist?
- Have you ever had a dental X-ray?
- What do you think the dentist uses the X-ray for?
- Do you think the dentist can see every part of your teeth just by looking in your mouth?

## Explain

"Today, we're going to read about a boy named Leo who discovers a special camera that helps dentists see parts of our teeth that are hidden!"

# Read the story (10 minutes)

Read The Superhero Tooth Camera aloud.
Pause at these moments to encourage discussion:

### When Dr. Grin introduces the X-ray machine:

- Why do you think Dr. Grin needs this machine?
- What might it help her see?

### When Dr. Grin compares teeth to a tree:

- What parts of a tree can we see?
- Where are the roots?
- How are teeth similar to trees?

### When Leo plays the Statue Game:

- Why does Leo need to stay still?
- What might happen if he moves?

### When Leo sees his X-ray:

- What does Leo discover?
- How did the X-ray help him understand his teeth?



# Key Concepts (5 minutes)

1. What is a dental X-ray?

A dental X-ray is a special image that helps dentists see parts of the teeth and mouth that cannot be seen just by looking.



2. What are tooth roots?

The roots are the parts of teeth underneath the gums. Unlike the crown, they cannot be seen when you simply look at someone's smile.



3. Why do patients stay still?

Staying still helps prevent blurry X-ray images and reduces the need to repeat the image.



4. What is the Statue Game?

In Leo's story, the Statue Game helps him remember to stay as still as possible while the X-ray is being taken.

# Student Activity

## (5-10 minutes)

Distribute the accompanying children's activity sheet.

- Answer questions about Leo's experience
- Identify the crown and the root of a tooth
- Draw a tooth and label the crown and the roots
- Draw their own superhero smile



# Discussion and Review

Ask students

- Why did Dr. Grin need to take an X-ray?
- What is the difference between the crown and roots of a tooth?
- What game did Leo play?
- Why was staying still important?
- What did Leo learn about dental X-rays?

# Optional Activity

Invite students to pretend to be superhero statues.

Ask them to stand or sit still for a few seconds, just like Leo. Then discuss how staying still helps create a clear picture.

# Key Takeaway

Dental X-rays help dentists see parts of our teeth and mouths that cannot be seen just by looking. Learning what to expect can help children feel more familiar with dental visits.



## About the Storybook Smiles Project

The Storybook Smiles Project is a student-led community initiative that provides free, illustrated dental education resources for children.

This lesson guide is for general educational purposes and does not replace professional dental advice.