

**Children's Health Minute**

**Air Dates: Week of February 5, 2007**

**"Children's Dental Health Month"**

**Dr. Hellerstedt:** Here is something to smile about. Did you know that February is Children's Dental Health Month?

Hi, I'm Dr. John Hellerstedt with the Children's Health Minute -- connecting families with Children's Medicaid and CHIP.

A child's smile is precious and you to help your child carry that smile into adulthood with regular visits to the dentist. Children should have their first dental check up as early as their first birthday. Your dentist will recommend a schedule of regular check-ups and cleanings.

During the visit, your child's teeth will be checked for proper growth and cleaned to prevent gum disease and tooth decay. Older children will be shown the right way to brush and floss.

Parents can do their part by making sure kids brush their teeth at least twice a day and by helping younger children learn to floss.

**Announcer:** Keep your kids healthy. Call toll-free 1-877-KIDS NOW to apply or when it's time to renew your CHIP or Children's Medicaid. Six months of coverage for all your children costs just 50 dollars or less, but most families pay little or nothing. That's 1-877-KIDS NOW.