

Title of Intervention: The Gleam Team – a Flexible Teacher-Selected Oral Health Program

Intervention Strategies: Provider Education, Supportive Relationships

Purpose of the Intervention: To promote awareness about the value of good oral health

Population: Young children

Setting: Infant classes in schools in England; school-based

Partners: Schools

Intervention Description:

- Provider Education: The "Gleam Team" program provides teachers with a Teacher's Guide that gives background information on dental health. Notes with a range of teaching ideas and materials were included in the guide.
- Supportive Relationships: Discussions were conducted with individual teachers to help them develop a dental health project based on the materials.

Theory: Not mentioned

Resources Required:

- Staff/Volunteers: Teachers, oral health professionals
- Training: Not mentioned
- Technology: Tape recorders
- Space: Not mentioned
- Budget: Not mentioned
- Intervention: Teacher's guide, poster, 'talkabout' pictures, coloring sheets, badges and stories
- Evaluation: Printed questionnaires, tape recorders, records of use forms, dental equipment for clinical assessments

Evaluation:

- Design: Pre- and post-test
- Methods and Measures:
 - Interviews to measure children's knowledge, attitudes and behaviors
 - Oral examination to measure children's dental and gingival condition.

Outcomes:

- Short Term Impact: There was some improvement in knowledge and attitude.
- Long Term Impact: Behavior changes were favorable. There was a significant improvement in gingival condition and dental cleanliness.

Maintenance: Not mentioned

Lessons Learned: Promotion of accurate, consistent dental health messages and of positive aspects of health may not always be communicated fully in the classroom. The program depends on how the teachers present it.

Citation(s):

Towner EM. The 'Gleam Team' programme: development and evaluation of a dental health education package for infant schools. Community Dent Health. Nov 1984;1(3):181-191.