



# The Tooth Fairy Project

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## Introduction

- Globally, more than 530 million children suffer from caries of primary teeth. Although, Nigeria has a low prevalence (30%) of dental caries compared to some western countries, about 90% of carious lesions in primary dentition go untreated.
- This may be due to poor oral health awareness which causes a direct effect on health seeking behavior.
- The Tooth Fairy Project seeks to educate primary school children who are living in a slum community in Ibadan, Nigeria on appropriate oral hygiene practices

## Objectives

- To promote appropriate oral health habits in school children at an early age.
- To encourage the right oral health attitude among school children.
- To explore an opportunity for the sustainability of oral health outreach programs.
- To determine the baseline Knowledge, Attitude and Practices of primary school children towards Oral Health in Ibadan, Nigeria

## Methodology

- Project site: A public primary school in a slum community in Ibadan, Nigeria.
- Project population: Grade 5 pupils. This class comprise five class arms with approximately 35 children per class.
- Pre-intervention survey: to determine baseline knowledge, attitude and practices towards oral health.
- Intervention stage: education of children on appropriate oral hygiene practices, dietary advice, dental healthcare utilization.
- Post-Intervention survey among the same population to measure impact.



- Timeline: 3 months.

## Expected outcomes

- Behavioural change and right attitude towards oral health to primary school children living in a slum community in Ibadan, Nigeria.
- Access to tooth brushing kits to primary school children in Ibadan, Nigeria.
- Oral health education and awareness on preventable dental diseases (e.g. dental caries) to school children.
- Education of primary school children on proper tooth brushing techniques.
- At the end of the project, a report on the project outcome will be delivered to the head teacher.

## Conclusion

It is easy to effect change in habits at an early age and these habits when developed, are difficult to break. Hence, the need for effective school-based dental outreach programs to educate school children on the importance of proper oral hygiene practices and how this could greatly improve the oral health.

References

