

**You need to print this form and bring it with you to Merit Badge College.**

**Highlighted areas are to be completed outside of class.**

1.  Using x-ray (radiographic) films and with your counselor's guidance, study the tooth structure and look for decay. Then do the following:
  - a. Using the radiographs as a guide, draw a lower molar. Label its parts and surfaces. Show surrounding structures such as bone and gum tissues.
  - b. Show on your drawing where the nerves and blood vessels enter the tooth.
  - c. Show on your drawing where bacterial plaque is most likely to be found.
  
2. Do the following:
  - a. Tell or write about what causes dental decay and gum disease.  
Tell how each of the following contributes to dental decay and gum disease: bacterial plaque, sugars, and acid.
    - Bacterial Plaque
    - Sugars
    - Acid
  - b. Tell the possible causes for traumatic tooth loss, describe the types of mouth guards used to prevent tooth trauma, and list the athletic activities during which a person should wear a mouth guard.
    - Causes
    - Types of Mouth Guards
    - Athletic Activities
  - c. Explain the first-aid procedure for saving a tooth that has been knocked out.
  - d. Discuss how the use of tobacco products can negatively affect your oral health
  
3.  **Arrange for a visit with a dentist. Before you go, ask whether your visit can include a dental examination and a plaque-control demonstration. Afterward, ask questions about things you want to know.**
  - Then tell your counselor what the dentist does in a checkup examination.**
  
4. Do TWO of the following:
  - a. Name at least five instruments and five pieces of equipment a dentist uses.

	Instruments	Equipment
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

- b. With the help of a dentist, prepare a dental stone cast using a vibrator, a mixing bowl, a water measure, a plastic measure, model stone, and a spatula.
- c. **Keep a record of everything you eat for three days.**
  - Circle those items that could provide the sugars that bacterial plaque needs to make acid.**
  - List snacks that you should avoid to help maintain the best oral health.**

5. Discuss with your merit badge counselor the following:
- a. How fluorides help prevent tooth decay and the ways fluorides can be provided to the teeth.
  - b. How the mouth is related to the rest of the body. Topics might include chewing, saliva, enzymes, nutrition, and speech.

6. Do TWO of the following:
- a. Make a model tooth of soap, clay, papier-mâché, or wax. Using a string and a large hand brush, show your troop or a school class proper toothbrushing and flossing procedures.
  - b. Make a poster on prevention of dental disease. Show the importance of good oral health.
  - c. Collect at least five advertisements for different toothpastes. List the claims that each one makes. Tell about the accuracy of the advertisements.
  - d. Write a feature story for your school newspaper on the proper care of teeth and gums.
  - e. Make drawings and write about the progress of dental decay.
    - Describe the types of dental filling and treatments a dentist can use to repair dental decay problems.

7.  Learn about career opportunities for both Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.) and auxiliary dental professions.

1.	
2.	
3.	

- Pick either general dentistry OR a dental specialty, plus one auxiliary dental profession. Find out about the education, training, and experience required for these two professions.
- Discuss these with your counselor, and explain why these professions interest you.

Scout Name	Address	Troop Number
Counselor Signature	Unit Leader Signature	Date Completed

**Counselor:** Initial next to the box located to the left of the requirement completed in class. Sign the space that states Counselor Signature.  
**Scout:** Complete the spaces above for Scout Name, Address and Troop Number. Complete all highlighted areas outside of class.

**This form replaces the traditional "Blue Card".**