

# Throw Your Tooth on the Roof

## A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS

**Themes:** Family Traditions, Dental Health, Growing Up

**Grade Level:** K to 5th grade

**Book Brief:** This book shares tooth traditions from around the world!

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## TIME TO READ!

**Before reading:** Take a poll to see how many baby teeth your group has lost. Discuss how kids celebrate losing a tooth. Do they have any special family traditions?

*\*Note: This book should be used as a resource. Don't try to read it all at once! Use one or two geographical sections at a time. Locate each country on a map as you go.*

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

### TOOTHBRUSH ART (AGES 5-12)

Materials: paper, paint, toothbrushes

Let kids try painting with toothbrushes! They can use the bristles to paint directly on the paper, dip the bristles in paint and flick specks onto the paper to make an abstract design or a starry sky, or flick the bristles across a piece of cardboard.

### HEALTHY COLLAGE (AGES 5-12)

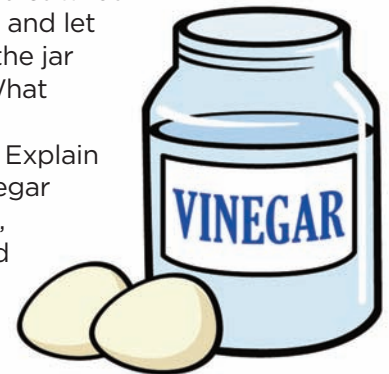
Materials: paper, glue, scissors, magazines and food advertisements

Divide a sheet of paper in half. Draw a smiling tooth on one side and a frowning tooth on the other. Cut out pictures of food. Glue healthful, low sugar foods on the smiling tooth side. Put high sugar foods on the frowning tooth side. This activity can be done individually or as a whole group.

### “EGG”SPERIMENT (AGES 5-12)

Materials: 1 hardboiled egg (with shell), vinegar, clear jar

Fill the jar with vinegar. Point out the hard shell on the egg—explain that it protects the egg like *enamel* protects our teeth. Place the egg in the jar. Have kids predict what will happen to it. Cover and let sit for 48 hours. Open the jar and remove the egg. What does it look like? What happened to the shell? Explain that the acid in the vinegar damaged the egg shell, just like the acid in food damages your teeth if you don't brush twice a day!



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### OTHER BOOKS ABOUT TEETH

*What Do the Fairies Do with All Those Teeth?*, Michel Luppens (1996), *Nice Try, Tooth Fairy*, Mary W. Olson (2003), *Open Wide, Tooth School Inside*, Laurie Keller (2003).

### TECHNOLOGY LINK FOR KIDS

[www.rif.org/kids](http://www.rif.org/kids)



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