

Throw Your Tooth on the Roof

A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

Themes: Family Traditions, Dental Health, Growing Up

Grade Level: K to 5th grade

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

Author:
Selby B. Beeler

Illustrator:
G. Brian Karas



TIME TO READ!

Before reading, make connections: Talk about what your family normally does to celebrate lost teeth. Do you think everyone in the world does the same

thing? When did your child last lose a tooth?

While reading, look at the pictures: What do the illustrations tell us about each of the countries listed?

Use the map at the front of the book to see where each country is located.

After reading, ask questions:

- ◆ What is a tradition?
- ◆ What was your favorite tooth tradition in the book?
- ◆ Why do you think *el ratón* (the rat) and mice are part of so many traditions?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

TOOTHBRUSH ART

Materials: old toothbrush, paint, paper

Let your child try painting with a toothbrush! Use the bristles to paint directly on the paper, or dip the bristles in paint and flick specks onto the paper to make a design. If you have dark blue or black paper, use white, silver or yellow paint to make a beautiful starry night.

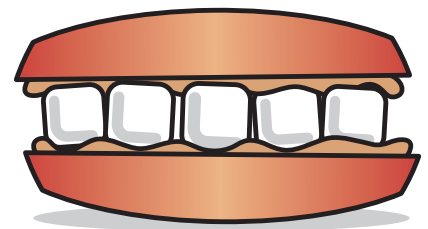
OUT AND ABOUT

Ask friends and relatives how they celebrate a lost tooth. Are their traditions the same as your family's? Go online to www.mouthpower.org to learn more about dental health. (Site available in English and Spanish.)

APPLE SMILE

Ingredients: 2 thick wedges of red apple (peel still on), peanut butter, mini-marshmallows

Spread peanut butter on one side of each slice. Put marshmallows on one of the peanut buttered sides. Put the second apple slice on top so the peanut butter holds the slices together. The red peel looks like lips and the marshmallows are teeth. Don't forget to brush after you eat!



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).



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