



DENTISTRY

Merit Badge Requirements

- 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.
 - 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.
 - C) Explain the first-aid procedure for saving a tooth that has been knocked out.

- 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.
 - B) With the help of a dentist, prepare a dental stone cast using a vibrator, a mixing bowl, a water measure, a plaster measure, model stone, and spatula.
 - C) Keep a record of everything you eat for 3 days. Circle those that may provide sugars that bacterial plaque need 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.

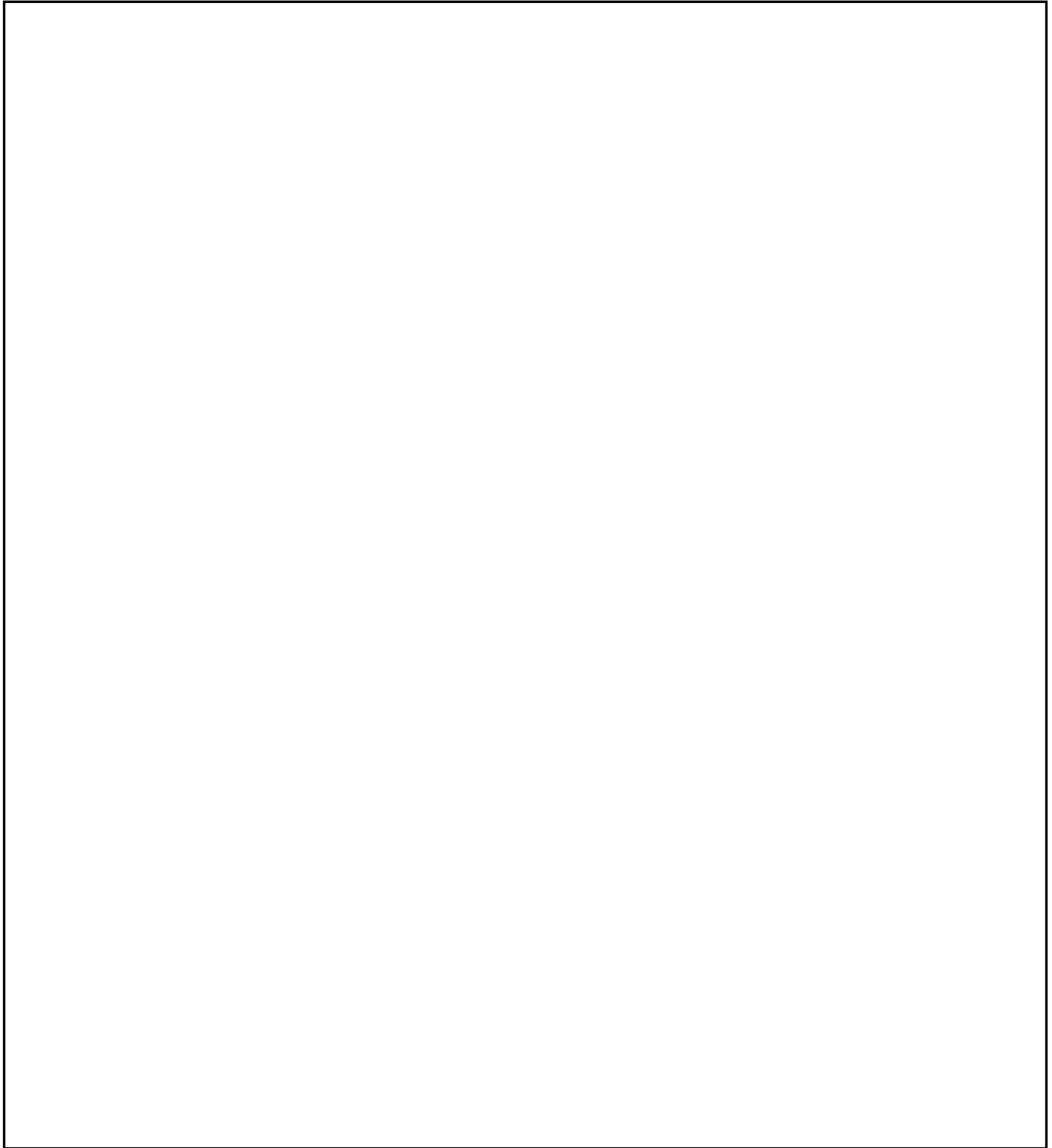
- 6) Do TWO of the following:
 - A) Make a model tooth of soap, clay, papier-mâché, or wax. Using a string and a large hand brush, show your troop or a school class proper tooth brushing and flossing procedures.
 - B) Make a poster on prevention of dental disease. Show the importance of good oral health.
 - 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) Do the following:
 - A) Report on careers in dentistry: Tell about the different specialties of dentistry and briefly tell what each specialist does.
 - B) Choose a field in dentistry that interests you and tell your counselor why it interests you. Describe the education required and the cost of the training, and tell what specific duties would be required of someone in this field.

Requirement 1

Using x-ray (radiographic) films and with your counselor's guidance, study the tooth structure and look for decay. Using the space below – Using the radiographs as a guide, draw the lower molar. Include the following:

- Label all of its parts and surfaces.
- Show bone and gum tissues.
- Show where the nerves and blood vessels enter the tooth.
- Show where bacterial plaque is most likely to be found.



Requirement 2

What causes dental decay? _____

What causes gum disease? _____

How does Bacterial Plaque contribute to dental decay and gum disease? _____

How do Sugars contribute to dental decay and gum disease? _____

How does Acid contribute to dental decay and gum disease? _____

Tell the possible causes for traumatic tooth loss: _____

Describe the types of mouth guards used to prevent tooth trauma: _____

List the athletic activities during which a person should wear a mouth guard: _____

Explain the first-aid procedure for saving a tooth that has been knocked out: _____

Scout Name: _____ Unit #: _____ Date: _____

Describe how the mouth is related to the rest of the body (such as chewing, saliva, enzymes, nutrition, and speech): _____

Requirement 6

You have been given five options for this requirement. Select and complete two of them.

If you selected *Option A*:

Make a model of a tooth using soap, clay, papier-mâché, or wax. Describe how you made your model: _____

_____ Using a string and a large hand brush, demonstrate proper tooth brushing and flossing to your troop or a school class.

If you selected *Option B*:

Make a poster on prevention of dental disease. Have it show the need for good oral health.

_____ Show & explain your poster to your counselor and, if you have the opportunity, to your Scout unit.

If you selected *Option C*:

Collect at least 5 advertisements for different toothpastes. For each toothpaste list the claim it makes and tell about the accuracy of the advertisement.

Toothpaste 1: _____

Claim: _____

Accuracy: _____

Toothpaste 2: _____

Claim: _____

Accuracy: _____

Toothpaste 3: _____

Claim: _____

Accuracy: _____

Scout Name: _____ Unit #: _____ Date: _____

Toothpaste 4: _____

Claim: _____

Accuracy: _____

Toothpaste 5: _____

Claim: _____

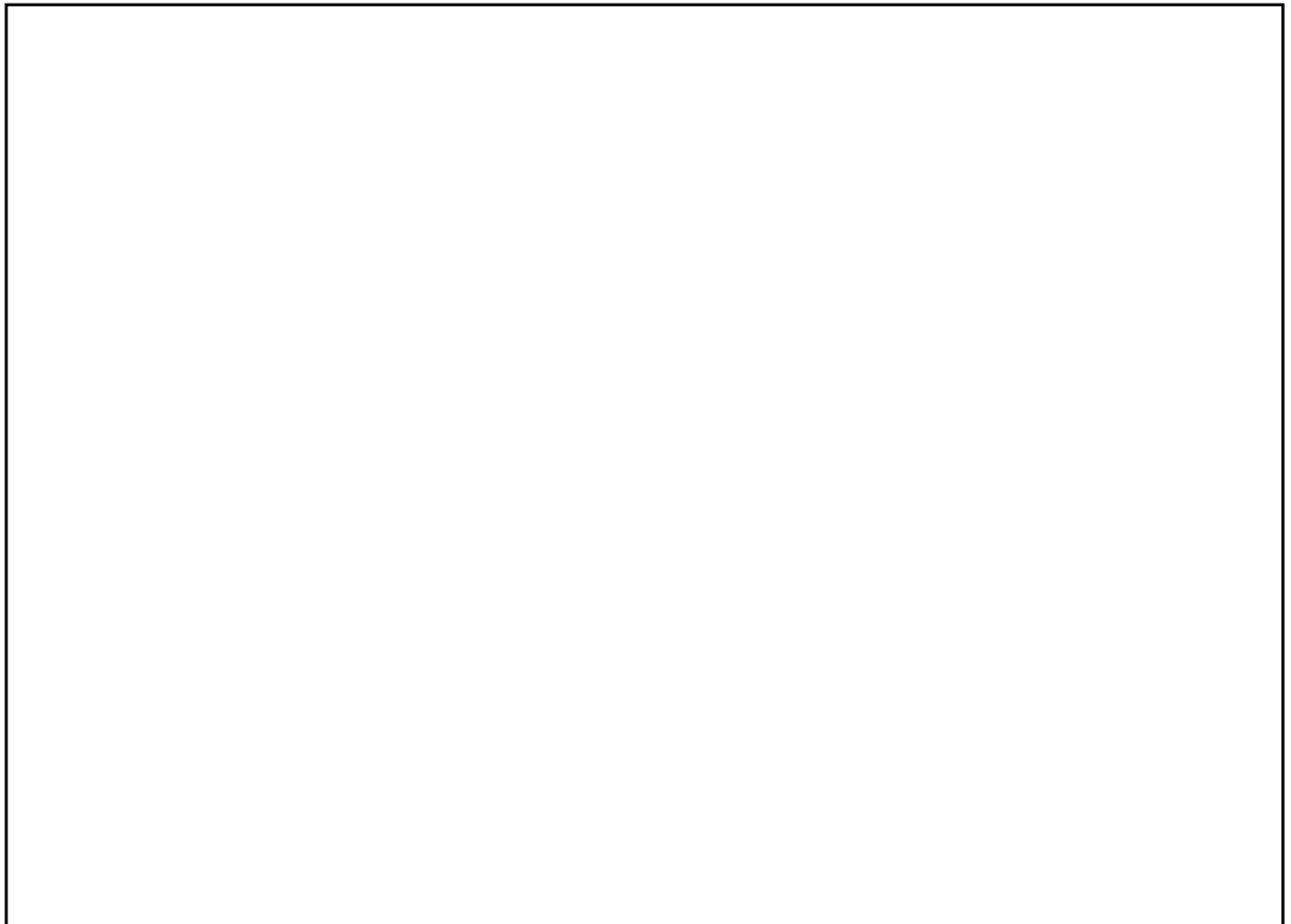
Accuracy: _____

If you selected **Option D**:

Write a feature story for your school newspaper on proper care of teeth and gums. Attach a copy of your story to this worksheet and share it with your counselor.

If you selected **Option E**:

Use the area below to make drawings that represent the process of dental decay:

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for students to draw the process of dental decay.

Scout Name: _____ Unit #: _____ Date: _____

Describe/explain the process of dental decay: _____

Describe the types of dental filling and treatments a dentist can use to repair dental decay problems: _____

Requirement 7

You have been given two options for this requirement. Select and complete one of them.

If you selected *Option A*:

Report on careers in dentistry. Tell about the different specialties of dentistry and briefly tell what each specialist does: _____

If you selected *Option B*:

Choose a field in dentistry that interests you and tell your counselor why it interests you. Describe the education required and the cost of the training, and tell what specific duties would be required of someone in this field: _____

