

# WHY DO CHILDREN HAVE BAD BREATH?

There are many potential causes for bad breath in children. Some common causes include a diet of aromatic foods, inadequate oral hygiene (including the tongue), infections in the mouth, infected tonsils, chronic nasal or sinus problems and other digestive tract problems.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **1. *Is Bad Breath normal in a child?***

Your child's breath odor should not be excessively objectionable. If your child's mouth develops a bad odor, check with your dentist.

### **2. *How can I tell what may be causing my child's Bad Breath?***

Look inside your child's mouth. If you can see visible food particles or other materials on or between the teeth, remove the material by helping the child brush, floss, and swish. If hygiene is good and the odor persists, see your dentist.

### **3. *Is mouthwash an effective treatment for my child's Bad Breath?***

Most mouthwashes provide temporary relief but do not eliminate the cause of the malodor.

### **4. *What will happen if I do nothing about my child's Bad Breath?***

If infection is present, doing nothing could be harmful. Sinus or digestive issues, if left untreated, could be dangerous, too. Inadequate oral hygiene should be addressed to prevent cavities.