

# Teething

## Pre-reading

### Questions:

- What do you know about teething?
- What more would you like to know about teething?

### Definitions:

- Gums – the pink part of the mouth under the teeth
- Swell – to get bigger than normal

## Reading



[www.mediacen.navy.mil](http://www.mediacen.navy.mil) image

15 Babies are not born with teeth. When new teeth start to push through a baby's  
31 gum, she is teething. Her gums may swell or little white dots might be seen. When  
47 babies are teething, they may **drool** a lot. They will also like to chew on things.  
62 Teething can cause pain for babies. There are things that can be done to help  
69 babies when they get a new tooth.  
73 • Rub the baby's gums.  
86 • Give the baby a safe thing to chew. Stores sell safe teething toys.  
100 • Give pain medicine if needed. First, read the bottle. Be sure not to give  
104 the baby too much.  
120 A baby will get his first tooth between the ages of six and twelve months. A  
137 baby can be fussy when he gets a new tooth. He will need extra love and comfort.

## Understanding

1. What are some signs of teething? (List at least three.) \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

2. How can you help a teething baby? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

3. Why might a teething baby be fussy? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

4. What does the word **drool** mean? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

5. When does a baby get her first tooth? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

## Writing

Option A: Retell the reading in your own words.

Option B: Have you ever cared for a teething baby? If yes, write about it. If no, what did you learn that could help you care for one?

---

---

---

---