**Transcript: Healthy Children Are Ready to Learn! (YouTube)**

<https://youtu.be/bR_ZaZS_g5o>

**Duration: 2:07**

*(Charming upbeat music)*

*[Text on screen: Healthy Children Are Ready to Learn!]*

*VO: (Mom character)*

Oh, hi! Did you know that good dental habits, like regular brushing, flossing, and dental visits, can help children succeed in the classroom? Yup! Oral health is a big part of school readiness. Because healthy mouths help kids talk, smile, and develop into who they’re meant to be.

When children’s teeth and gums are healthy, it’s easier for them to pay attention to the important stuff, like doing their best at school. Children with poor oral health often miss more school and receive lower grades.

Focusing and speaking up in class are always harder when children do not feel well. Mouth pain makes eating and staying nourished that much tougher, too.

In 2018, over four-hundred and forty-thousand California K through 12 students missed school due to dental problems!

*[Text on screen: Citation: 2018 California Health Interview Survey. UCLA Center for Health Policy Research.]*

So, how can routine dental checkups help prevent these challenges at school? Well, dentists check for oral health problems (some that might not even be noticeable) to catch problems early or avoid them if possible.

Medi-Cal dental covers cleanings and molar sealants for members up to age 21. This helps save time and money while also ensuring that children get the care they need. Now that keeps kids’ smiles strong, protected, and passing with flying colors!

Do you have a little one entering public school for the first time? If so, they’ll need an oral health assessment 12 months before starting school or by May thirty-first of their first year. That goes for Kindergarten or First Grade.

*[Text on screen: May 31 Deadline]*

This required screening checks for signs of decay and should only take a few minutes. Keep in mind, this does not take the place of a full dental exam.

Now here’s some homework for you! Find your family a dental home and schedule regular checkups to ensure children are healthy and ready for a successful school year.

*[On screen: Smile, CA mobile site with “Find a Dentist” button.]*

To learn more about oral health and school readiness, or to find a Medi-Cal dentist near you, visit SmileCalifornia.org.

*[On screen: Smile, CA logo. Visit SmileCalifornia.org]*