

## Let's talk about Andrew's Loose Tooth

By Robert Munsch

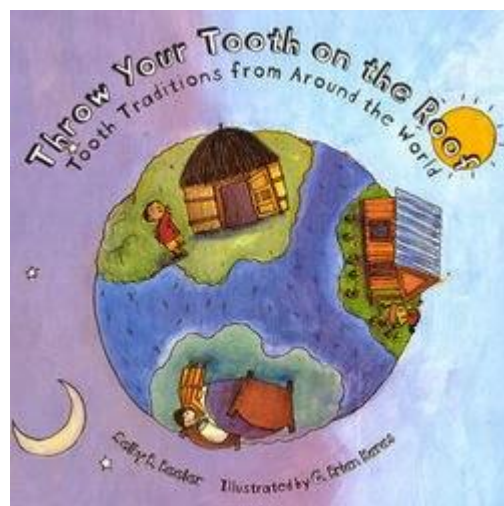
Has your child ever had a loose tooth? In this humorous story, a boy named Andrew has a loose tooth. All he wants to do is eat an apple, but it is too painful. Everyone tries to help him pull it out: his mom, his dad, the dentist, and the tooth fairy; but it is his friend Louis's idea that finally works.



If your child has ever had a loose tooth, it is a good time to refer to it when you are sharing this book. One of the principles for reading with your deaf child offered by the Le Clerc Centre's Shared Reading Project is to **"connect concepts in the story to the real world"**. Anytime that your child can relate their experience to that of the characters in the book, they will have a greater understanding of the story. If your child has lost a tooth, you can share how it came out compared to the exaggerated ways Robert Munsch describes in this story. If your child has yet to lose a tooth, you can decide what to do with the tooth when it does come out.

## Read More About It!

Leaving a tooth under your pillow for the Tooth Fairy is only one tradition for what to do with a lost tooth. The book *Throw Your Tooth on the Roof* by Selby B. Beeler tells about many different tooth traditions around the world.



## Let's Learn about Language

### Classifiers

You will notice that Denise frequently uses three classifiers in this storytelling: CL: 1, CL: 3 and CL: C-claw. Classifiers are common handshapes that over time have come to represent different 'classes' or categories of things. They are used to describe the movement, type, shape, size, or location of what you are talking about. Once Denise explains that Andrew is coming down the stairs, she can use CL: 1 to continue showing his movement rather than repeating his name again and again.

How is the CL: 3 used in this storytelling?

What does Denise use the CL: C-claw to represent in this story?

**CL: 1**



**CL: 3**



**CL: C-claw**



### Role Shifting

You see Denise use role shifting in this ASL storytelling to depict what is happening from the different characters' perspectives. When two characters are communicating, she signs one on each side of her body. You will also see her indicate the child and adult by looking up or down respectively. Role shifting is a very important part of ASL because it gives a clearer picture of the interaction.

## Let's Create

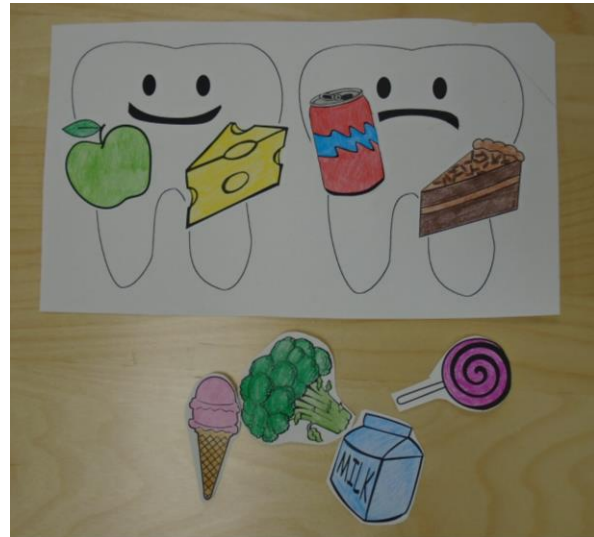
### What's Healthy for our Teeth?

In this tip sheet you have:

- Happy and Sad teeth outlines
- Pictures of healthy and unhealthy foods

What to do:

1. Copy both sheets. Colour and cut out the different foods.
2. Decide with your child which foods would be healthy and unhealthy for their teeth. Glue the healthy foods on the happy tooth and the unhealthy foods on the sad tooth.



You could also find more pictures in grocery store flyers or magazines if your child wants to continue sorting.

Here are some signs you might use to do this activity with your child:

**Good**



**Bad**

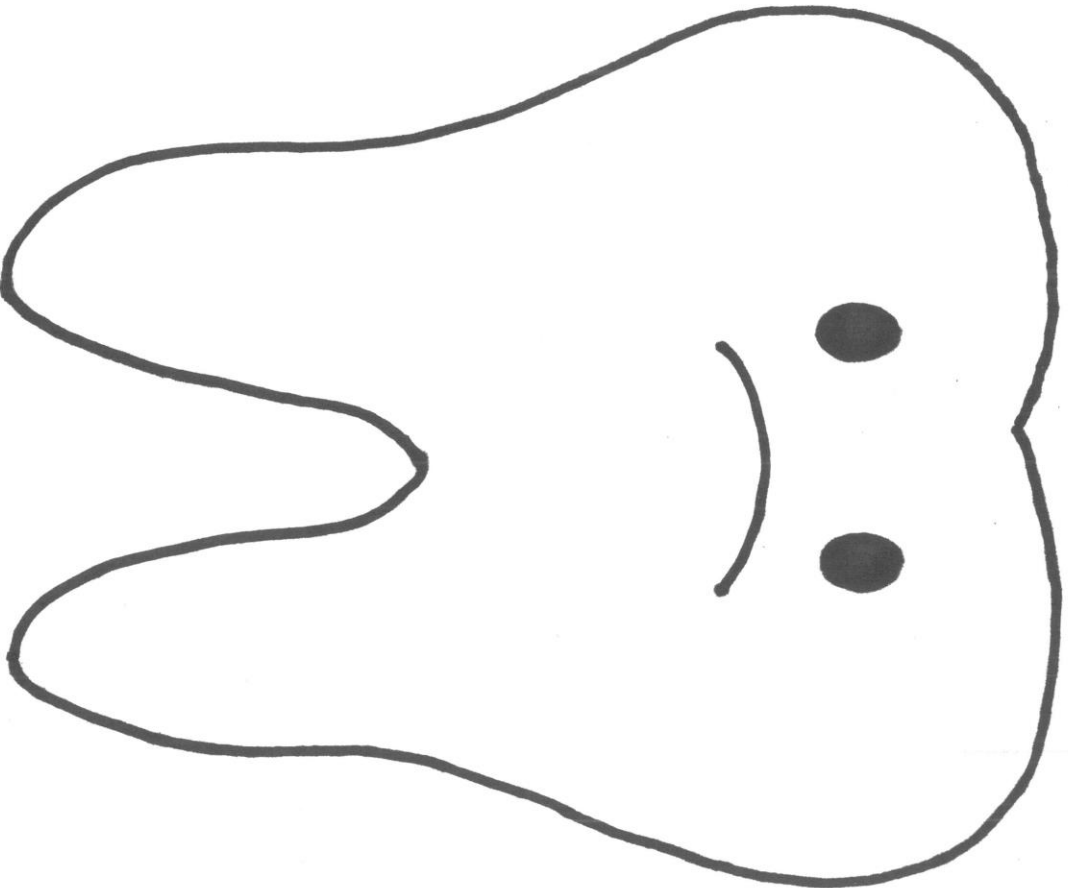
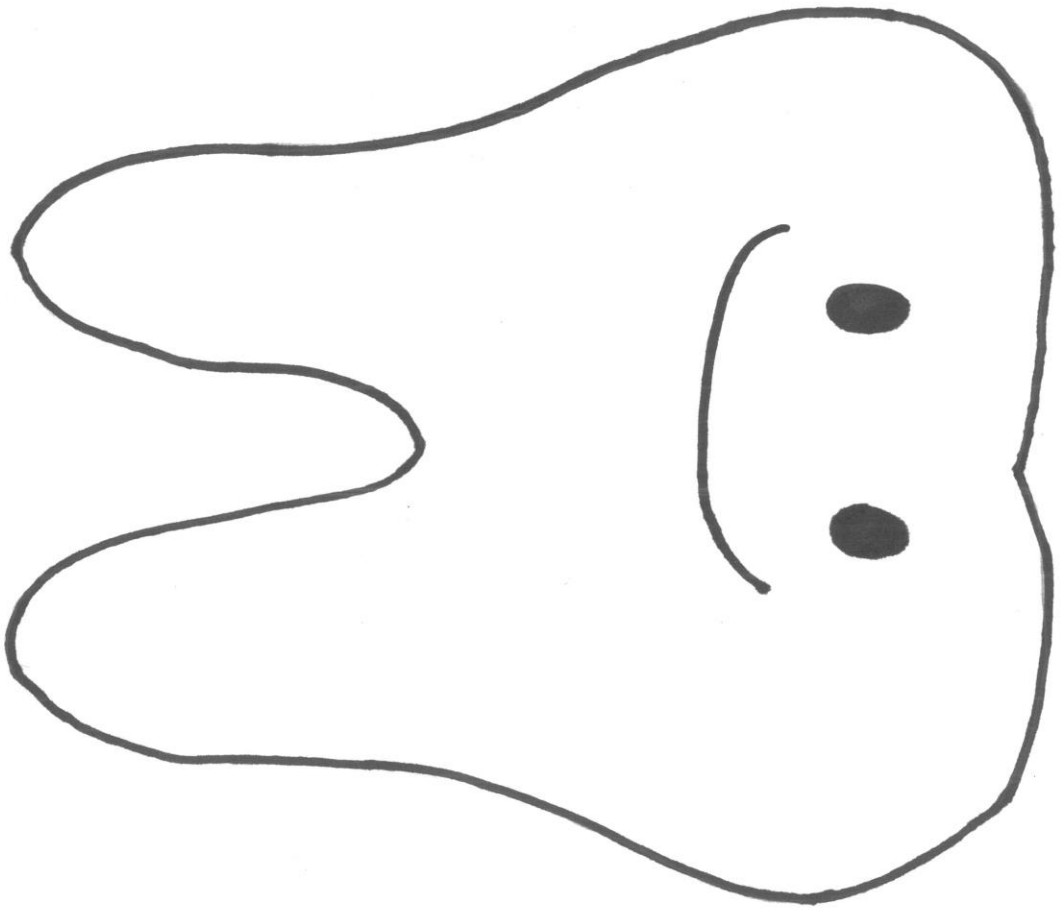


**Which?**



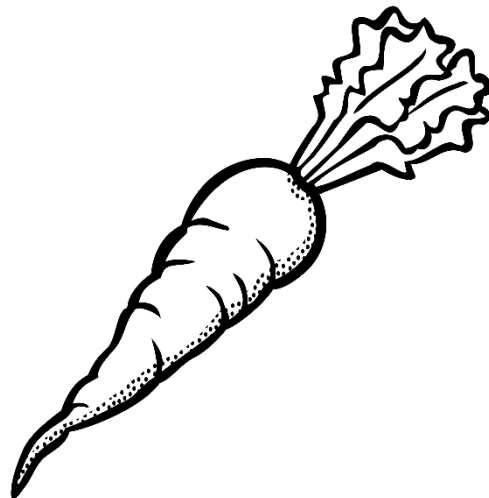
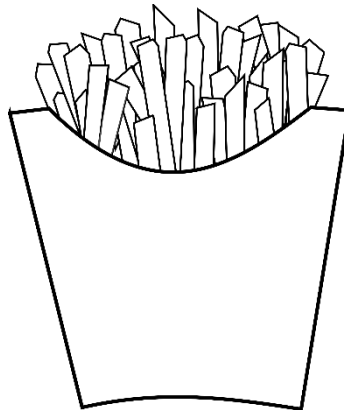
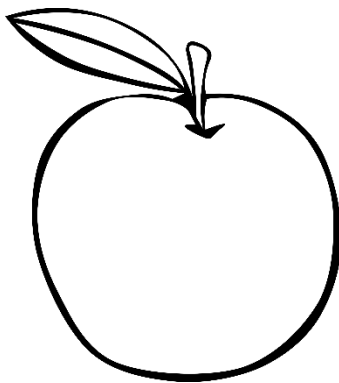
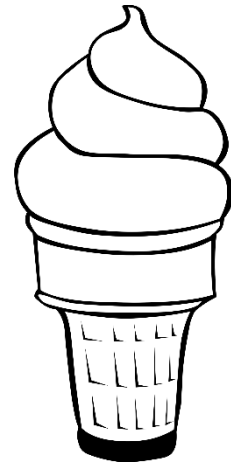
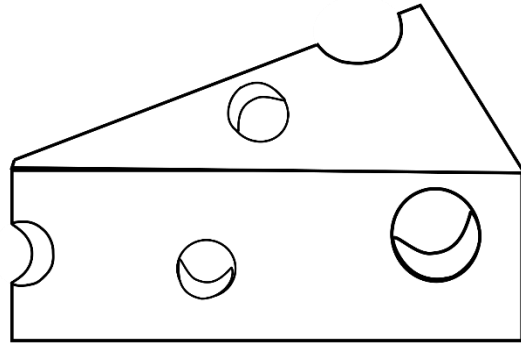
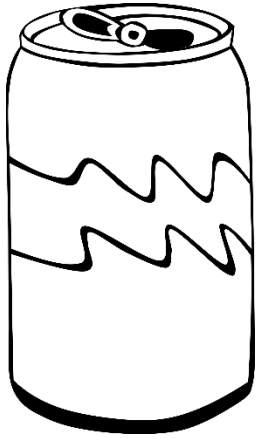
Some children might think the foods that are unhealthy are yummy and they might want to glue them on the happy tooth, but if you do the egg experiment that follows they will see what those sugary foods do to our teeth and how important it is to brush our teeth after eating them.

**TIP:** If your child is not eating, you could ask them if the food is good or bad for mommy or daddy's teeth. Or if they have a brother or sister, is the food good or bad for their teeth.



Happy and Sad Teeth

Healthy and Unhealthy Foods



## Let's Explore Together

If your child is interested in learning about the effect of the unhealthy foods you glued on the tooth shape in the previous activity, here is a little experiment you can try. Eggs have a hard outer shell much like the enamel on our teeth. You can explain to your child that we will use eggs to see what happens to our teeth when we eat unhealthy food.



Place a hard-boiled egg in a cup of dark soda or juice overnight. Ask your child to predict what they think will happen. In the morning, check to see what changes have occurred. It may surprise you both!

You can then take a toothbrush and toothpaste to try to remove the stains from the soda. This will help your child see how much we really do have to work at brushing our teeth to get them clean.

Try using different liquids to see the effect on our teeth.

What happens to an egg in milk or water?



Did you notice how Denise signed calling the dentist in the story? Rather than using the sign for phone as you would do for a hearing child, she adjusted her signing for the deaf child and used the sign for calling on the TTY. This is a small change that can make it easier for the deaf child to connect to the story.

