

## Explaining to your child



- Explain the Tooth Fairy as a friendly tradition that celebrates growing up and being brave
- Keep the explanation gentle and magical without too many details, focusing on fun rather than rules, and reassure your child that losing a tooth is normal
- Follow your child's lead, if they're enthusiastic, enjoy the magic together, and if they're curious or unsure, answer honestly in a way that feels comforting

## Tooth Fairy History



The Tooth Fairy is a relatively modern childhood tradition that became popular in the early 20th century, especially in the United States, though its roots trace back to older European folklore about children's lost teeth.

In medieval times, families believed teeth held magical properties and often buried or burned them for protection or good luck. Over time, these beliefs evolved into the friendly Tooth Fairy figure, who rewards children for lost teeth, helping transform a potentially scary moment into a comforting and magical experience.

**The current average Tooth Fairy rate in the Western U.S. is about \$5 per tooth!**

## Contact Us



### Some instances of when to seek professional advice

- If the permanent tooth behind the baby tooth has mostly erupted but the baby tooth is not loosening (or the permanent tooth is growing in significantly out of place.)
- If the gums are significantly red, swollen, or show other signs of infection
- If a tooth is lost as a result of an injury or trauma to the area



*A first loose tooth can cause mild anxiety for both the child and the parent. Not to worry, your Aloha Team is always here for you to answer any questions! Please feel free to contact our office.*



[alohakidsdds.com](http://alohakidsdds.com)



South Berkeley: (510) 848-6494

North Berkeley: (510) 528-1546

Orinda: (925) 253-8190



Mon - Fri: 8:00am - 12:00pm  
1:30pm - 5:00pm

Sat: 8:00am - 12:00pm

# Aloha's Tooth Fairy

## Guide



*Celebrating milestones,  
one healthy tooth at a  
time*

**ALPHA**  
PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY



## Loosing the 1<sup>st</sup> Tooth!

### Reassure . . .

When your child loses their first tooth, reassure them that it's a normal and exciting part of growing up, and let them know it happens to everyone.



### Happy Milestone!

### . . . Take care

to gently wiggle the tooth only if it's very loose, and also take care of the area by keeping it clean with gentle brushing around the loose tooth.

## What to expect

The first baby tooth your child naturally loses is most often one of the **two lower front teeth**. This usually happens around **age six**, with a typical range between **five and seven years old**.



As the permanent tooth begins to erupt, it slowly dissolves the root of the baby tooth. This causes the baby tooth to become loose over time. When it finally falls out, it may look quite small because the root is no longer present.



You may notice the permanent tooth starting to grow in **behind** the baby tooth. This is fairly common and usually not a concern. The baby tooth often still falls out on its own as the adult tooth continues to erupt. The position of the permanent tooth frequently corrects itself over time.



## Did you know?

Because adult teeth are larger, nearby baby teeth may shift slightly. Some temporary crowding in the area is also common. These changes will be monitored over time to determine if and when there is any need for correction.



Some chewing discomfort is normal as the tooth loosens. A softer diet and reassurance may help during this time.



If your child loses their first tooth later than expected, there's often no need to worry. A later timeline can be beneficial, as the jaw has had more time to grow and better accommodate the larger adult teeth; and the baby tooth has served its purpose longer.



It also can be normal for **several months** to pass between losing a baby tooth and the appearance of the permanent tooth.