

## **FACTS ABOUT DENTAL SEALANTS**



Children should get sealants on their permanent molars as soon as the teeth come in, before decay attacks the teeth.



Sealants are made of plastic material, which is applied to the chewing surfaces of the back teeth where decay occurs most often.



Sealants protect the grooves and the pits on the chewing surfaces of the teeth, where toothbrush bristles cannot reach. They provide a barrier to prevent food and bacteria from sticking to teeth.

The first permanent molars come in between the ages of 5 and 7, and the second molars appear when a child is between 11 and 14 years old. Ask about sealants at both ages.