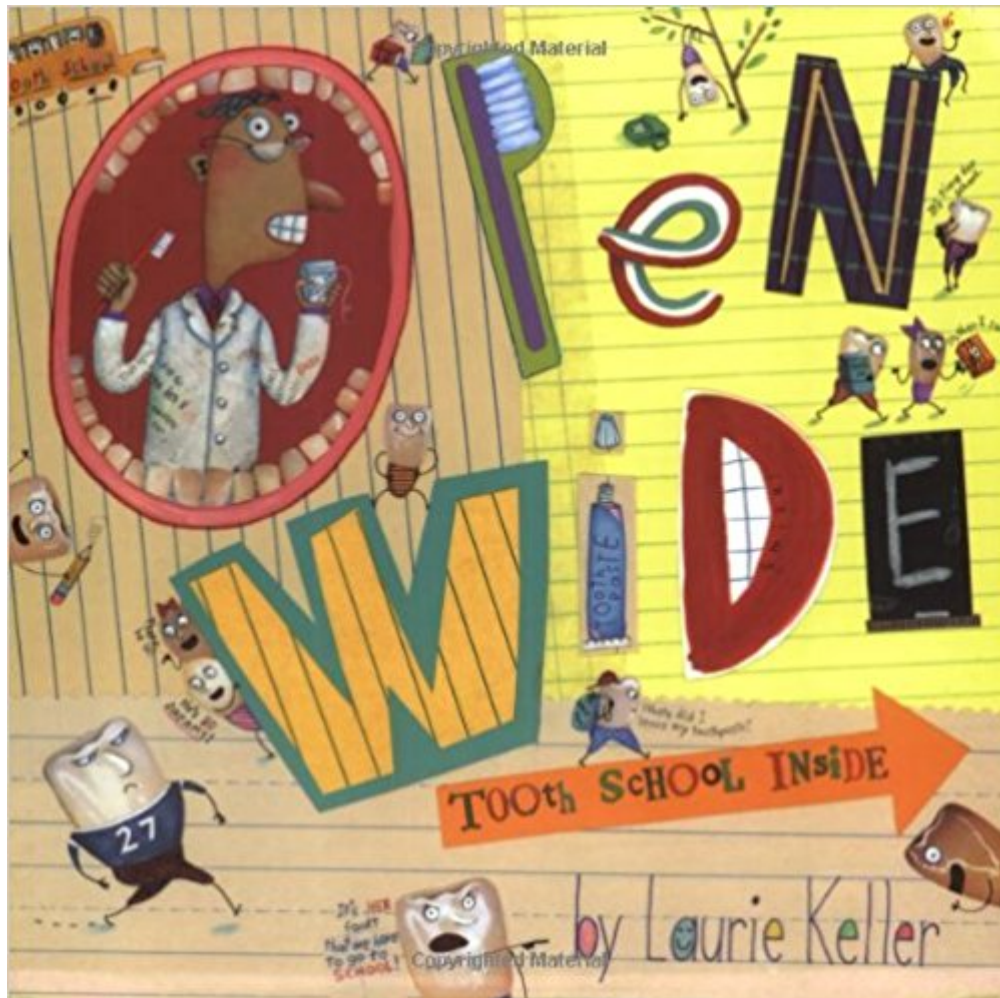




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# Open Wide: Tooth School Inside



## Synopsis

From the author/illustrator of *The Scrambled States of America*, here is a fun-filled introduction to teeth. "Before the principal's announcements, will you all please stand and recite our pledge: 'I pledge allegiance to this mouth and to the dentist who takes care of us. And to the gums on which we stand, strong and healthy, with toothbrushes and toothpaste for all.'" It's time for tooth school and Dr. Flossman is excited to meet the incoming class of 32--eight incisors, four canines, eight premolars, and twelve molars, including the four wisdom teeth. There's just so much to learn--from brushing and flossing to dentin and pulp to every student's nightmare: tooth decay! Best read with a toothbrush in hand, this hilarious book is full of interesting facts (for instance, George Washington's teeth were not made of wood, despite popular belief) and a classroom full of quirky characters. Young readers will laugh their way to a better appreciation for those pearly whites that beckon them to brush. And from there it's just a short hop to flossing. This title has Common Core connections.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 46 customer reviews

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Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

Lauri Keller, the much-applauded creator of the wacky, wonderful *The Scrambled States of*

America, traces one school day in a classroom of teeth in *Open Wide: Tooth School Inside*. Fortunately, when Dr. Flossman takes attendance, all 32 teeth are present to take the pledge: "And to the gums on which we stand, strong and healthy, with toothbrushes and toothpaste for all." The day proceeds with an anatomy lesson (illustrating dentin, enamel, pulp, etc.), which is interrupted only momentarily when Carl Canine badmouths a little molar (hurting his feelings even though he has a hard enamel shell on the outside). Sally Incisor then shares her report on primary teeth ("Babies don't even need teeth. You never see them eating corn on the cob or anything"), and the Tooth Fairy makes a guest appearance, offering molar-coaster rides and bemoaning the whole "under-the-pillow" idea, which causes her to fear suffocation. Lunch is a messy affair--complete with food fights--and when it is over, none of the teeth feel like brushing. Of course, an in-depth lesson on tooth decay and cavities ignites a flurry of flossing, gargling, and brushing. As in *Scrambled States* (which is a must-see if you haven't yet read it), every clever, colorful collage bubbles with activity, hilarious asides between the teeth, and tiny details that you may miss the first time through. Two quizzes conclude the book, posing questions such as "George Washington had teeth made out of rocks and twigs. T or F" and "Tooth decay is caused by a) bacteria and germs, b) slugs and worms, c) bad perms." Kids will never ignore their teeth again--and when they do take a look in the mirror they may see a smiling tooth face peering back, begging for a good brush. (Ages 5 to 9) --Karin Snelson --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Dr. Flossman welcomes his 32 students--eight incisors, four canines, eight premolars and 12 molars--to class at the start of Keller's (*The Scrambled States of America*) disappointingly flat lesson on tooth care and trivia. While, in her first book, the states themselves delivered the facts in fun-filled chatty exchanges, here the teacher drills into his anthropomorphic pupils a smattering of tooth truths, including the physical composition of teeth, the function of primary teeth, causes of tooth decay and the importance of dental hygiene. The bulk of the narrative is silly filler (for instance, a funky-looking tooth fairy pays a visit to the school and complains that she sometimes almost suffocates trying to retrieve teeth from under pillows). The book's abundant puns and asides, many delivered by the teeth themselves, may elicit as many groans as giggles from readers. One of the standout spreads, the penultimate, highlights facts about teeth during the times of the Ancient Egyptians through to George Washington. Though the book's cluttered, quirky art is at its best in comical scenarios of ambulatory teeth in the cafeteria and at recess, the visual humor, like that of the narrative, lacks the incisive bite of Keller's earlier book. Ages 5-10. (May) Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Bought as a gift for my 6 year old nephew but I read it with my 6 year old daughter before we gave it to him. It was super funny and I had to explain some of the situations as she didn't pick up on them all. I bought it with the other Laurie Keller books and the DVD.

Geared towards older children (7-10) with a keen interest in dental details. My son loves science and the body but this wasn't a win for us.

With so many young patients at our dental office, we decided to increase our dental library of children's books. After ordering ten or more stories, this was by far our absolute favorite for children AND parents. We're always looking for a way to teach parents to teach their kids about the importance of good oral health. This is perfect! There is so much information in this book about the structure of teeth, the jobs of each tooth, and why caring for teeth is essential. Parents and children learn that primary teeth (baby teeth) play a crucial role in speech development and holding a place for permanent teeth. While kids and parents are learning accurate information, they'll find that the humor in the book is fantastic as well. This is a dentist-approved book! We just love it and have shared the title with many others.

Loved this funny story that lets kids learn about their teeth in a humorous way!

Very cute boof

The book is a little busy, making it difficult to read. It's interesting to look at, but not good as a teaching tool.

My 5yr loves the book! Now she knows about her teeth. Although she still has all her baby teeth but now she knows her front teeth are called incisors. I have to read it twice every time and oh boy it's quite a long book but funny. I would recommend this book.

Laurie Keller's books provide enjoyment to the very young on up. My 10 year old daughter love this books and still laughs at the more adult jokes hidden in the small print. She also loves the anatomical information provided. This is a great book for a quick read before bedtime.

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