

## Fun fact time! Human and animal teeth

December 3rd, 2012



Looking for ways to motivate your child to brush his or her teeth? Why not compare their teeth to those of their favorite animals? After all, everyone loves fun facts. Like people, some animals have several different kinds of teeth, while others have only one kind. Others don't have any teeth at all! Animals' teeth also give us clues about what they eat. Here are some fun facts comparing human teeth and animal teeth we thought you might enjoy, courtesy of the American Student Dental Association!

- Humans form two sets of teeth over the course of a lifetime, with baby teeth being replaced by adult teeth between the ages of 6 and 12.
- An average human being has around 32 teeth. This includes four wisdom teeth, eight incisors, four canines, twelve molars and eight premolars.
- When you see a hippopotamus opening its mouth, it seems as though they have only four teeth! But they actually have 40 pearly whites.
- Dogs rarely get cavities because their saliva has an extremely high pH, which prevents demineralization.

- An elephant's molars can weigh up to 10 lbs.
- The teeth of the pocket gopher grow up to 15 inches a year!
- The blue whale is the largest mammal on earth, but it dines exclusively on tiny shrimp because it has no teeth
- Armadillos, common in the southwest, have 104 teeth.
- Snails can have more than 25,000 teeth, which are located on the tongue.
- Dolphins only get one set of teeth to last a lifetime!
- And here's one from prehistoric times! The Tyrannosaurus Rex, or T-Rex, had more than 60 thick, conical, bone-crunching teeth that were up to 9 inches long. Its jaws were up to 4 feet long.

We hope you enjoyed these fun facts!

# Dr. Aiden Sone Discusses, What's The Difference Between A Dental Implant And A Dental Bridge?

December 16th, 2012

One of the most common questions we hear is, "is there a difference between a dental implant and a dental bridge?"

Both implants and bridges are permanent, non-removable replacements for your missing tooth, or teeth. The biggest difference between an implant and a bridge is how your new teeth are held in place. While a bridge may be used to literally bridge the gap created by one or more missing teeth, help maintain the shape of your face, and alleviate stress in your bite, implants provide a strong foundation for fixed (permanent) or removable replacement teeth that are made to match your natural teeth.

Visually, there is little difference between the two, but they both have different advantages. Bridges, which can be made from gold, alloys, porcelain, or a combination of these materials are bonded onto surrounding teeth for support. A bridge can help restore your smile, as well as your ability to properly chew and speak. They can also maintain the shape of your face and prevent remaining teeth from drifting out of position. If you can replace a missing tooth or teeth with a bridge, the major advantage is that your solution is immediate because you do not need surgery to successfully complete this procedure.

There are many benefits to dental implants as well, but the biggest advantage of an implant is that you do not use the neighboring teeth to support the replacement of the missing tooth. Just like bridges, they provide improved appearance, self-esteem, comfort, speech and oral health, as well as the ability to eat all your favorite foods with confidence and without any pain. As for how long they last? Implants are extremely durable and with good care, can last a lifetime.

To learn more about dental implants and bridges, or to schedule an appointment to select the option that's right for you, we invite you to give Sone's on Sheppard Dental Centre a call!

Whether you want a bridge or an implant, both procedures can be done at Sone's on Sheppard Dental Centre!

