

MOUTH WISE

Script

For Classroom Teacher

ORAL PIERCING

- SLIDE 1 "Hello class. Today's health studies will review the risks that you take if you decide to have your tongue or lips pierced."
- SLIDE 2 "Oral piercings have become socially popular to some people."
- SLIDE 3 "The people who have oral piercings done say they are making a fashion statement."
- SLIDE 4 "Some people think that oral piercing is a means of expressing themselves."
- SLIDE 5 "Whatever the reason someone would pierce their tongue or lips, this decision is very risky business."
- SLIDE 6 "Oral piercing risks are many: infection, prolonged bleeding, swelling, nerve damage, numbness, and a heart problem called Endocarditis."
- SLIDE 7 "Infections from oral piercing can include HIV, AIDS, and all forms of Hepatitis (liver disease)."
- SLIDE 8 "Improper sterilization of piercing instruments and improper hand washing can cause infections related to oral piercing."
- SLIDE 9 "Prolonged bleeding from a piercing can cause a loss of blood and damage the tongue's blood vessels."
- SLIDE 10 "Swelling of the tongue can be dangerous as it can cause a person's airway to become blocked, which hinders breathing."
- SLIDE 11 "Bacteria caused by oral piercings can travel to a person's heart and cause inflammation of the lining called Endocarditis."
- SLIDE 12 "Oral piercing also causes other oral health problems."
- SLIDE 13 "The jewelry used in piercings can damage teeth and interfere with chewing, speaking, and tasting. Loose jewelry, if swallowed, can cause choking or, if inhaled, can cause permanent lung

damage.

- SLIDE 14 "Jewelry will fracture normal healthy teeth. It also will cause breaking of fillings, crowns and bridges."
- SLIDE 15 "Oral piercing also can cause injury to the gums."
- SLIDE 16 "Jewelry irritates the gums and can lead to tooth loss."
- SLIDE 17 "The jewelry from piercing disrupts the normal function of the mouth. It can cause the production of excess saliva, impedes pronunciation, and causes problems with chewing and swallowing. Some people even get an allergic reaction to the jewelry."
- SLIDE 18 "Oral piercing also can hinder your dentist from doing a thorough examination. The jewelry can deflect the X-ray beams so that a problem may not show up on the film."
- SLIDE 19 "Some people have choked from the jewelry."
- SLIDE 20 "Persons who have a piercing wound should immediately consult a dentist. Until that time, you should take precautions by cleansing the area with an anti-bacterial mouth rinse or a salt water rinse. Right after a person has a piercing done, they should use ice chips to control swelling and clean the jewelry with a soft bristle brush to control the possibility of bacteria build-up."
- SLIDE 21 "For more information about oral piercing go to the ADA Web site."