

April is National Facial Protection Month



Practice makes perfect (but be careful)

According to Safechild.net:

60% of organized sports-related injuries happen during practice rather than at games.

Helmets help players live to play another day

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control estimates that if everyone used a helmet:

- One life could be saved each day
- One head injury could be avoided every four minutes

Faceguards help Little Leaguers slide safely into home base!

35% of players are less likely to suffer facial injuries when wearing a faceguard—devices made of plastic or metal that attach to baseball helmets (From a study published in the February 2003 issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*).

Do the Math:

- **5 million** teeth will be knocked out of U.S. kids and teens while playing sports this year alone.
- **150,000** bicycle riders visit emergency rooms each year, according to the National Bicycle Safety Network. Children between the ages of 5 and 15 are the highest number of those affected.
- Over **200,000** oral injuries are prevented by mouth guard use.

So what's your excuse? Protect yourself from harm and still have fun in the game!



American Academy of
Pediatric Dentistry
211 E. Chicago Ave.
Suite 700
Chicago, IL 60611-2616
312/337-2169
www.aapd.org



American Association of Oral
and Maxillofacial Surgeons
9700 W. Bryn Mawr Ave.
Rosemont, IL 60018-5701
847/678-6200
www.aaoms.org



American Association of
Orthodontists
401 North Lindbergh Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63141-7816
314/993-1700
www.braces.org