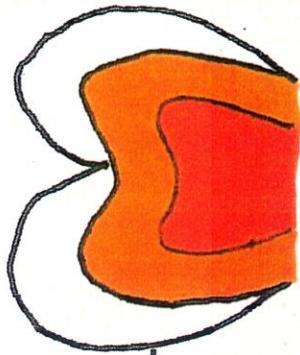
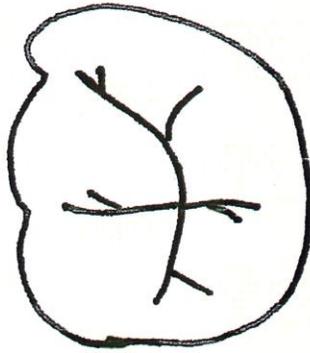


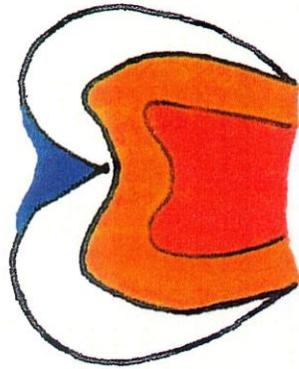
PIT AND FISSURE SEALANTS



Enamel



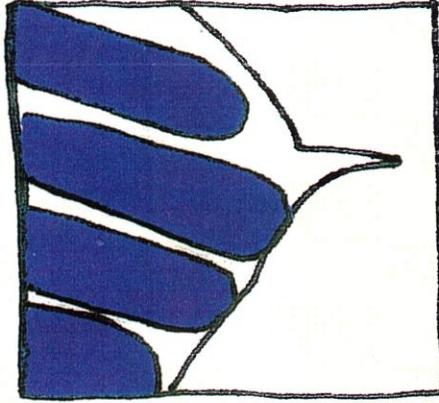
Pit and Fissure grooves



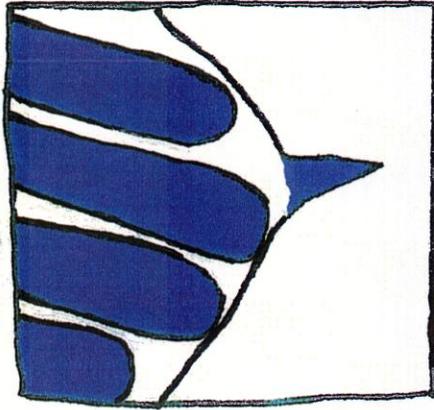
Sealant closes deep pits



Sealed tooth



Your toothbrush is unable to clean pit and fissures



Sealants seal out bacteria and plaque



Sealants

Q: What are Sealants?

A: Sealants protect the grooved and pitted surfaces of the teeth, especially the chewing surfaces of back teeth where most cavities in children are found. Made of clear or shaded plastic, sealants are applied to the teeth to help keep them cavity free.

Q: How do Sealants work?

A: Even if your child brushes and flosses carefully, it is difficult-sometimes impossible-to clean the tiny grooves and pits on certain teeth. Food and bacteria build up in these crevices, placing your child in danger of tooth decay. Sealants help by “sealing out” food and plaque, which helps reduce the risk of decay.

Q: What is the treatment like?

A: The application of a sealant is quick and comfortable. It takes only one visit. The tooth is first cleaned. It is then conditioned and dried. The sealant is then flowed onto the grooves of the chewing surface of the tooth and hardened with a special blue light. Your child will be able to eat right after the application.

Q: How much does it cost?

A: The treatment is very affordable, especially in the view of the valuable decay protection it offers your child. Most dental insurance companies cover sealants. Some companies, however, have age and specific tooth limitations. Check with your benefits provider about your child’s coverage. A member of our staff can also provide you with a treatment plan.

Q: Which teeth should be sealed?

A: The natural flow of saliva usually keeps the smooth surfaces of the teeth clean, but does not wash out the grooves and fissures on the chewing surfaces. The teeth most at risk of decay, and therefore, most in need of sealants, are the first and second permanent molars (six-year and twelve-year molars). Many times, the permanent premolars and primary molars can also benefit from the protection of sealants. Each child’s situation is unique, so a member of our staff will discuss any recommended treatment with you at your visit.