



Community Outreach Program

∞USE YOUR HEAD - PROTECT YOUR FACE∞

**WHAT KIDS OF ALL AGES NEED TO KNOW
ABOUT PROTECTING THEMSELVES
FROM FACIAL INJURIES**



Every year, across the nation, thousands of young children, teenagers and college athletes are rushed to emergency rooms, dentists, orthodontists and oral and facial surgeons due to unprotected facial injuries.

Consider being hit in the face unexpectedly from a hard object like a baseball or bat. Heart of the Brazos Oral & Facial Surgery surgeon, Dr. Charles Clark knows this scenario first hand. As a collegiate athlete, Dr. Clark's teammate was injured on the baseball field. A baseball struck his teammate in the face, fracturing several bones and lacerating the skin in multiple locations. *What do you do then? Will a person be permanently disfigured?*

Or, falling from a skateboard or bicycle without wearing proper head protective gear. *Why is wearing cumbersome gear so important?*

Every young person can benefit from learning correct facial protection which will benefit them for years to come.

Heart of the Brazos Oral & Facial Surgery's *Community Outreach Program*, **USE YOUR HEAD – PROTECT YOUR FACE** is designed to teach first- hand the importance of avoiding such injuries and, in the event one should happen what to do immediately in the aftermath.



Facial injuries, which include those of the mouth, can have long lasting effects on a student's physical and psychological well being into adulthood.

Drs Charles Clark and Scott Warren, both former athletes, will be able to teach our kids the essentials in facial protection.



Dr. Charles Clark with patient, explaining facial protection

These scenarios among others will be answered during the Community Outreach Program:

- *It won't happen to me, so why is it important for me to protect my face and mouth?*
- *Coach, my mouth guard doesn't fit right?*
- *Mom that bike helmet hurts and makes me look funny – I'll be careful, I promise.*

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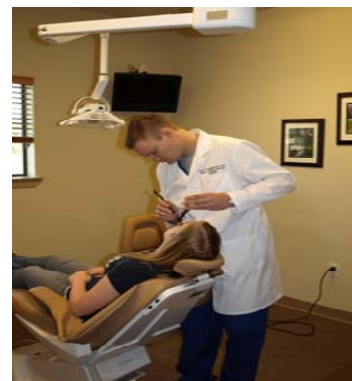
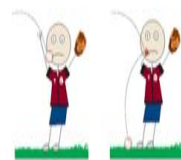


Consider these facts: in football, where mouth guards are required, less than 1% of injuries involve the teeth and oral cavity. Compare this to basketball, which does not require players to wear mouth guards. Nearly 35% of basketball – related injuries involve the teeth or oral cavity (*Journal of the ADA 1995; 126-491-6*).

Thus, help us – help you to protect the face. We don't want an oral or facial injury to be the reason for sitting on the sidelines and missing out on the fun. Someone you know can be that 1% OR that 35% -- so let's work together – and, avoid injury altogether.

BE SMART :

USE YOUR HEAD – PROTECT YOUR FACE



Dr. Scott Warren examining patient