

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE NITE-GUIDE® TECHNIQUE
IN PREVENTING MALOCCLUSION

The Nite-Guide® appliance is designed to steer a developing malocclusion back to normalcy by simply making use of normal development that ideally guides teeth into the mouth perfectly straight. When the forces of eruption exert their influence on front teeth that erupt without rotations or crowding, the arch naturally enlarges to make room as the eruption takes place. When the front teeth erupt rotated or in a misplaced position, this natural expansion does not take place and crooked teeth are the result. The Nite-Guide® appliance gradually encourages poorly erupting teeth to assume a normal path of eruption by simply using natural eruptive forces present only at this particular time. The teeth then erupt straight and the fibers that naturally hold teeth from moving during function develop and serve to fix this area of the dentition in place so that relapse will not take place. At the same time, the front permanent teeth are guided as they erupt to an ideal vertical position and thereby prevent over-eruption from taking place, which prevents an excessive overbite, and gummy smiles from developing that are frequently caused by the over-eruption of these front teeth. The appliance also adjusts the jaws to correct excess overjet or the "buck tooth" look.

This is all done by only wearing the appliance while sleeping at night and from a research project conducted at Tufts University in Boston, Massachusetts, it was found that over 96% of an abnormal overbite and all of the overjet was prevented from developing while being accepted by over 93% of the children between 3 and 8 years of age.

The procedure is designed to coordinate with research findings in the scientific literature and uses natural forces both in their magnitude, and duration to achieve the maximum effect as found in these studies. At no time does the appliance exert additional forces against the erupting teeth, but only uses the natural forces present during this period and mimics the ideal environment present in children's mouths that develop ideal occlusions. The technique has worldwide implications in being able to provide ideal

healthy dentitions for underprivileged children in depressed areas of the world in an economically possible manner.