



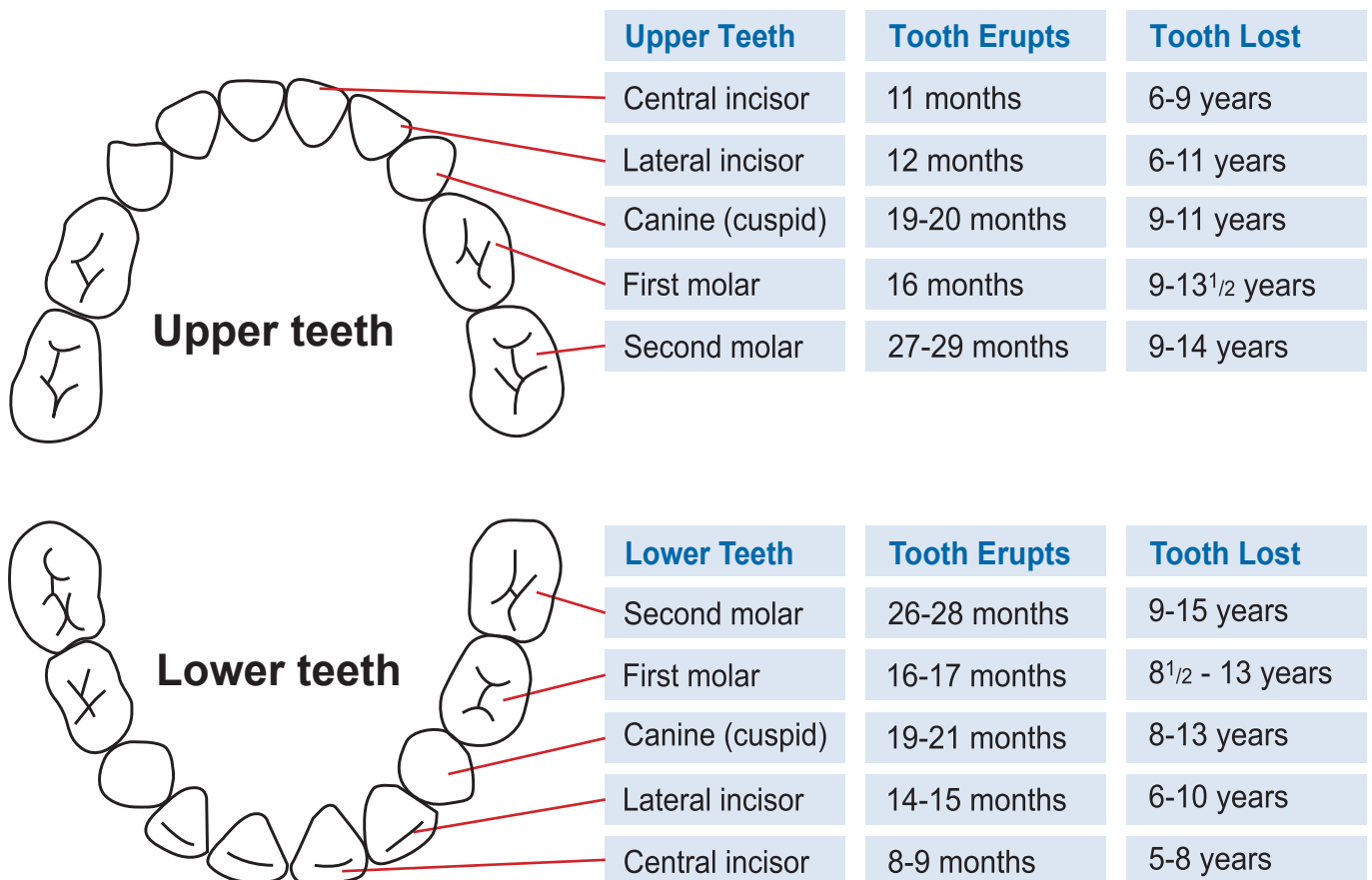
Eruption dates

Deciduous (baby) teeth

A baby's first tooth usually erupts (appears) around 6 months of age. However, this can vary for each individual. By around three years of age, a child should have a full set of 20 baby teeth.

Children usually lose all their baby teeth between 6 to 12 years of age. Gradually the teeth become loose in the gum and fall out. The teeth usually fall out in the same order in which they appear.

The diagram below is a general guide to when the baby teeth appear and fall out.



Children need baby teeth to eat, talk clearly, give shape to jaws and face, keep space for permanent (adult) teeth and to smile.

Eruption dates

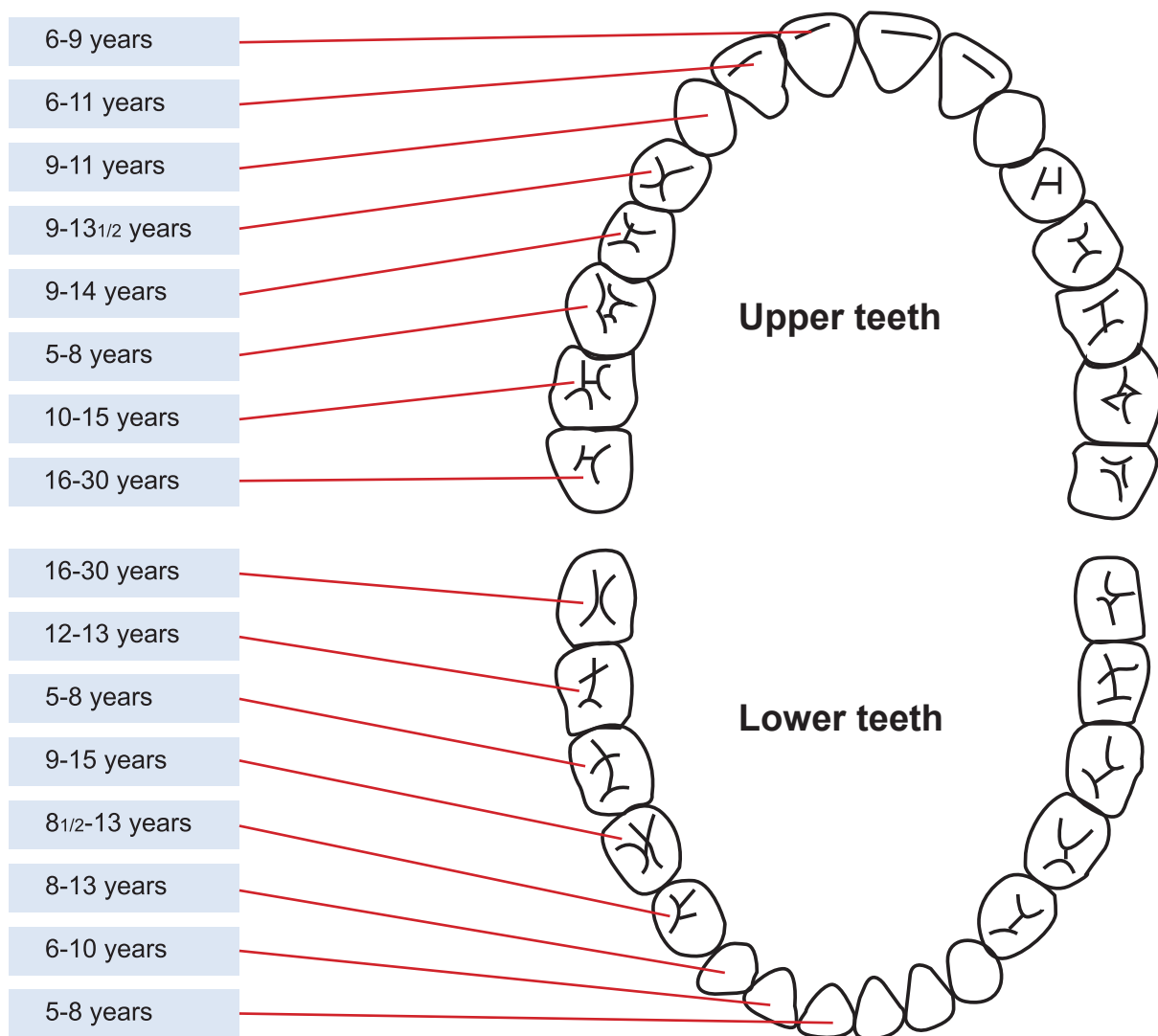
Permanent (adult) teeth

The first permanent tooth usually appears around 6 years of age, behind the last baby molar. At about the same time, the lower front baby teeth become loose. All baby teeth are usually replaced by 12-14 years of age.

As children grow, so do their mouths and by the time they are adults there is usually space for 32 permanent teeth.

The last permanent teeth to come through the gums are the four large chewing teeth at the very back, one on each side, top and bottom. These teeth are called 'wisdom' teeth because they come through the gums some time between the age of 16 and 30 years. Not everyone has wisdom teeth.

The diagram below is a general guide to when adult teeth appear and will vary for each individual.



Source: Diamanti J, Townsend GC. New Standards for Permanent tooth emergence in Australian Children. Aust Den J 2003; 48:(1):39-42

Would you like more information or to provide feedback?

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