

## ARTHUR'S TOOTH

BY MARC BROWN

Finally, Arthur had a loose tooth. He wiggled it with his tongue. He wiggled it with his finger. He wiggled it all the time. One afternoon while Arthur was wiggling his tooth during math, he heard a loud scream. Francine jumped up. "My tooth just fell out on my desk!" she cried. "Class how many of you have lost a tooth?" asked Mr. Marco. Everyone but Arthur raised their hands. When Arthur got home, he didn't want any milk and cookies. "What's the matter, Arthur?" his mother asked. "I'm the only one in my class who still has all his baby teeth" he complained. "Don't worry," said his sister, D.W. "Before you know it, all your teeth will fall out and you can get false teeth like Grandma Thora."

Arthur persuaded Father to make a special dinner for him: steak, corn on the cob, and peanut brittle. "I can't believe one little tooth can take so long to fall out," said Father.

The next day, Muffy brought in a whole jar of her teeth for show-and-tell. Later the class saw a movie called Nasty Tooth Decay. "Between the ages of four and seven," the announcer began, "everyone begins to lose their deciduous, or baby teeth." "Everyone except Arthur!" shouted Francine. The whole class laughed. By the next day, Arthur was convinced his loose tooth would never fall out. His friends tried to help. Buster brought carrots for Arthur's lunch. Sue Ellen showed Arthur how to put raisins over his teeth to make it look as for some were missing. The Brain invented a special machine. "It's a tooth remover," he explained. "Just put your head in here." Even Blinky Barnes wanted to help. "I can knock that tooth out in one second flat," he said. That night Arthur spent a lot of time in front of the bathroom mirror. He got up very early the next morning to wiggle his tooth again. "You need professional help. You're going to the dentist Today."

There were other patients waiting to see Dr. Sozio. "Sorry," said the nurse. "We're running late. Have a seat." Finally it was Arthur's turn. "How old are you now, Arthur?" "Seven," said Arthur. "And I still have all my baby teeth." "I was eight before I lost my first tooth," said Dr. Sozio. "Everyone is different." "Really?" said Arthur. Dr. Sozio examined Arthur's loose tooth. "This one should fall out very soon," he said. "Just wait."

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1. **What most likely would have happened if Francine hadn't lost her tooth?**
    - A. She would have gotten mad
    - B. She would have pull her tooth out.
    - C. Arthur wouldn't have been so worried.
    - D. The dentist would have removed it for her.
  2. **What is Arthur most likely to do next time someone offers to take his tooth out?**
    - A. Let them do anything to remove his tooth
    - B. Invite someone else to go with him
    - C. Make sure he has a book with him
    - D. Invite his grandma to go with him
  3. **What would have happened if Arthur had gotten his tooth out by himself?**
    - A. He wouldn't have been made fun of by others
    - B. He wouldn't have gotten tooth fairy's money
    - C. He wouldn't have any tricks yet
    - D. He would have stayed reading with D.W.
  4. **What would have happened if Dr. Sozio wouldn't have told Arthur to wait?**
    - A. His heart wouldn't have ponded so fast
    - B. Grandma Tora would have laughed at the kid
    - C. He would have removed the tooth for him
    - D. Arthur would have been in real danger
  5. **What is the kid and the Parents most likely to do after leaving Dr. Sozio's office?**
    - A. They will go to their zumba class.
    - B. D.W. will let Arthur play with her.
    - C. They will go home.
    - D. They will speak to Arthur's teacher