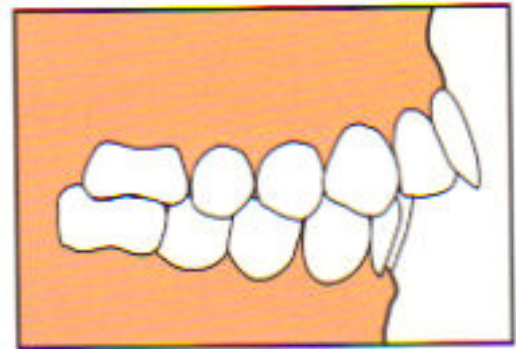


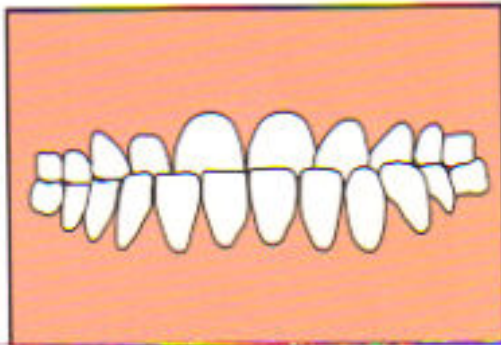
Early Treatment

When is the Best Time to Begin?

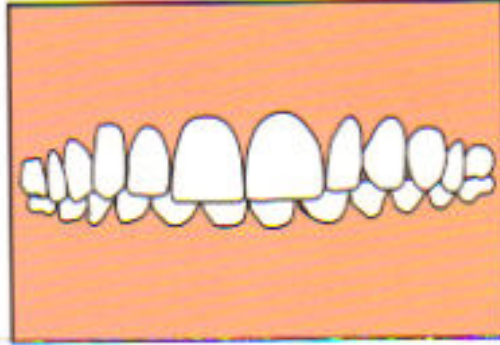
Orthodontic treatment can be started on certain types of tooth problems before all permanent teeth have erupted. Early treatment, usually begun after the four permanent upper and lower teeth have erupted (ages 7-9), is recommended when any of these problems are apparent:



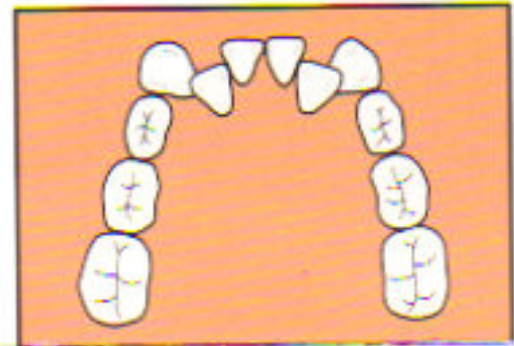
OVERJET
Upper front teeth protrude



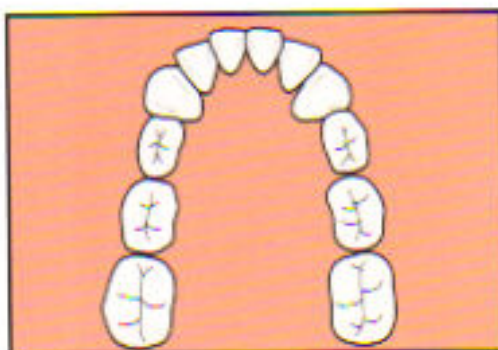
UNDERBITE
Lower front teeth protrude



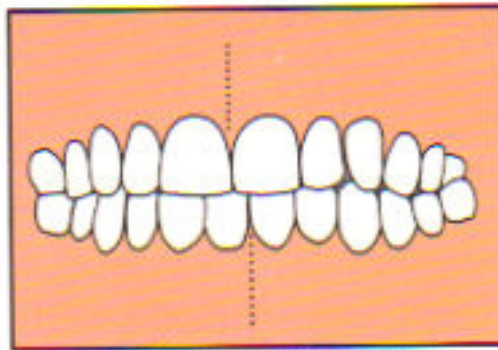
DEEP BITE
Upper front teeth cover lower front teeth too much



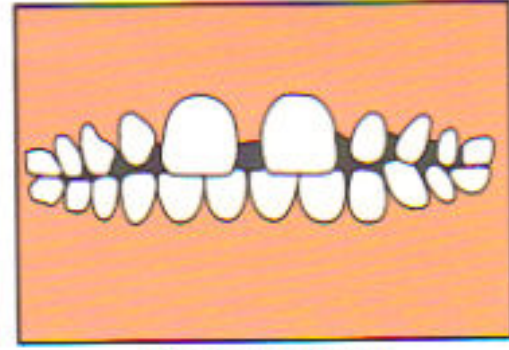
CROWDING
Upper and/or lower teeth are crowded



NARROW ARCHES
Upper and/or lower arches too narrow



MID-LINE MISALIGNMENT
Mid-lines of upper and lower arches don't line up



EXCESS SPACING
There is excess space between teeth

Advantages of Early Treatment

- Moves the front teeth back so they will be less susceptible to injury
- Improves the relationship of upper and lower jaws, allowing more normal future growth and development
- Uses maximum advantage of growth for successful treatment
- Improves facial appearance and self-esteem
- Takes advantage of the good cooperation of patients at this age
- May avoid or reduce the need for extraction of teeth when patients are older