**Supplies**
- “Strepto and Silly” script.
- 2 germ puppets.
- 2 adult volunteers.
- Toothbrush.
- “Germs Make Cavities” handout.

**Instructions:** Ask for two volunteers to play the germs; the teacher is the toothbrush. Ideally, give volunteers the script to review a few minutes before performing.

**Lactobacilli:** Yup, yup, yup (notice audience) Hello! My name is Lactobacilli—isn’t that a silly name? That’s why people call me SILLY. Can you say my name with me? SILLY!

I am silly and sticky and I live on teeth. Yup, yup, yup. I do! I do! I live on that one, and that one, and that one waaaaay in back. I’m sticking real tight! But you can’t see me. I’m tiny and invisible. And I love to stick on teeth! Hey! Who else is on that tooth?

**Strepto:** I’m Strepto—I have a tough name because I am tough! Can you say my name? STREPTO! Say it again! STREPTO! I’m tiny and invisible but I am tough. I live on teeth, too. I live on that one, and that one, and that one waaaaaaay in back. I like to eat the food that comes in. Food makes me STRONG.

**Lactobacilli:** Food makes me SILLY and STICKY.

**Strepto:** Together we do bad things to your teeth. We stick and make them weak.

**Lactobacilli:** If we stay on your teeth we can make holes in them. Yup, Yup, Yup. We do, we do!

**Strepto:** (whisper) But sometimes we don’t get to stay on teeth!

**Lactobacilli:** (whisper) Sometimes we get brushed away! Sometimes, (louder) Oh, NO, here it comes!

**Toothbrush:** I’m tougher than germs! I’m brushing you down the drain! (giant toothbrush brushes them away)

**Lactobacilli:** Oh, no, here we go!

**Strepto:** (weakly) But we’ll be back tomorrow.

**Toothbrush:** That’s OK because I am going to brush you away. I brush EVERY day!

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**Discussion and Parent Practice Handout**

- What questions do you have about what causes cavities?
- What are some ways that you could use this story with your children.
- Pass out the Germs Make Cavities handout.
Germs Make Cavities

Did you Know

- Germs plus food and drinks high in sugar or carbohydrates cause cavities.
- White or brown spots on teeth may be early signs of tooth decay and a black spot is probably a cavity.
- Cavities get bigger and bigger until the dentist fixes them.

Did you Know

- White spots (the start of cavities)
- Tooth decay

Cavities can be prevented!

Take the Healthy Mouth Challenge!

I will:

☐ Check my child’s teeth for white, brown, or black spots.
☐ Make an appointment with my child’s dentist if I see any white, brown or black spots.