



### **When Should A Child Be Evaluated for Orthodontic Treatment?**

Between the ages of 8-10, enough permanent teeth have come in and enough jaw growth has occurred that the dentist or orthodontist can identify current problems, anticipate future problems and alleviate parents' concerns if all seems normal. Likewise, the first permanent molars and incisors have usually come in by age 8-10, allowing evaluation of crossbites, crowding and developing injury-prone dental protrusions. Any ongoing finger sucking or other oral habits can be assessed at this time also.

Some signs or habits that may indicate the need for an early orthodontic examination are:

- Early or late loss of baby teeth
- Difficulty in chewing or biting
- Mouth breathing
- Thumb sucking
- Finger sucking
- Crowding, misplaced or blocked out teeth,
- Jaws that shift or make sounds
- Biting the cheek or roof of the mouth
- Teeth that meet abnormally or not at all, and
- Jaws and teeth that are out of proportion with the rest of the face

A check-up with an orthodontic specialist no later than age 8-10 enables the orthodontist to detect and evaluate problems (if any), advise if treatment will be necessary, and determine the best time for that patient to be treated.

Dr. Blaine Langberg is a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontists and a certified Invisalign® and iBraces™ provider. Dr. Langberg and Team are dedicated to providing excellent orthodontic treatment with a warm and caring touch. The ultimate goal is to provide personalized treatment and individual attention in a gentle and friendly environment.

To schedule a complimentary, no-obligation consultation with Dr. Langberg, call 203-431-4466 or visit our website at [www.braceyourselves.com](http://www.braceyourselves.com) for more information.