



Sexual Health Education Instructional Materials Review

Curriculum Title: Second Step - Child Protection Unit

Year Published: 2014

Publisher: Committee for Children

Website: <http://www.secondstep.org/child-protection>

Full or Supplemental: Supplemental

Grade Level: K-5

Student Population: General

Duration/Number of Lessons: 6 lessons per grade

Format and Features: 6 notebooks w/ lessons (K-5), DVD for each grade, additional online resources

Evidence-based/informed: Evidence-informed

National Standards Alignment: Not evident

Healthy Youth Act Compliance: Yes, with modification (see reviewer comments)

AIDS Omnibus Act Compliance: N/A

Bias Free Materials: Yes, with modification (see reviewer comments)

Primary Topical Areas (Check all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abortion | <input type="checkbox"/> Identity/Orientation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abstinence | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Online Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy & Reproduction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anatomy and Physiology | <input type="checkbox"/> Puberty/Adolescent Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication/Decision-making | <input type="checkbox"/> Refusal Skills |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Condom Use | <input type="checkbox"/> STD Prevention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contraception | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Healthy relationships | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HIV Prevention | |

Reviewer Comments:

Reviewer 108

This looks like it would take a significant amount of prep time for teachers.

Reviewer 107

This is a really good product. My only issue with it is that it isn't inclusive of nonbinary or gender queer folks. The gender binary is firmly in place. However, it has great professional development for teachers to recognize and address signs of abuse and disclosure. The activities are age appropriate and families are well engaged with this product.

Reviewer 106

This curriculum is very repetitive and skills-based, which makes it likely to be effective at achieving the program's learning objectives.

It does not include adequate guidance for teachers on how to address the fact that some kids will have already experienced sexual abuse. Instructors would benefit from the addition of considerations regarding the potential for re-traumatization of survivors of sexual abuse, including ways to introduce the topic to students (ex: "Some of you may already know about this and know what to do" or "Some of you may have experienced this and it can bring up different feelings to be talking about it in class - you can always talk with me about that."), as well as the recommendation that students have the option to opt-out of those sessions if they prefer.

It depicts a variety of ages, ethnicities and lifestyles in the scenarios, but it only depicts heterosexual couples. No clear depiction of same-gender relationships. Almost all the perpetrators in the scenarios are male, which may be appropriate based on statistics, but it feels worth noting.

It doesn't teach affirmative consent but emphasizes that people should just say no to touch they don't want. The repeated assertion that medical providers can touch their bodies "to keep you healthy" should include the message the children still have a right to ask questions and make choices about this kind of touch as well.