

Comprehensive Sexual Health Education Instructional Materials Review 2026

Walking Wise

Year Published/Revised: 2025

Publisher: Walking Wise

Website: [Walking Wise® | Prevent Child Exploitation Through Education](https://www.walkingwise.org/)

Full or Supplemental: Supplemental

Grade Level: 6–12

Student Population: General

Duration/Number of Lessons: 12 lessons recommended over 5-year period

Format and Features: Educator resources, lesson plans, videos, student resources

Materials Provide Support for online or in-person learning: Yes

Available in Multiple Languages: No, English only

Evidence-based/informed: Not evident

National Standards Alignment: No

Consistent with WA Health Education Standards? Yes

Consistent with Comprehensive Sexual Health Education Law? Yes

Consistent with AIDS Omnibus Act? N/A

Inclusive Materials/Strategies: Yes

Bias-Free Materials: Yes



Primary Subject Areas and Topics Required by Law:

- ☐ Anatomy and Physiology, Reproduction, and Pregnancy (Pregnancy for Grade 6+)
- ☐ Growth and Development/Puberty
- ☐ Self-Identity (gender stereotypes, gender identity, sexual orientation, etc.)
- ☐ Prevention (general)
 - ☐ HIV/AIDS Prevention
 - ☐ Pregnancy Prevention
 - ☐ STD Prevention
 - ☐ Health Care and Prevention Resources
- ☒ Healthy Relationships (general)
 - ☐ Affirmative Consent
 - ☐ Bystander Training
 - ☐ Intrapersonal and Interpersonal Communication Skills for Healthy Relationships
 - ☒ The development of meaningful relationships and avoidance of exploitative relationships
 - ☐ Understanding the influences of family, peers, community, and the media throughout life on healthy sexual relationships

Reviewer Comments:

Med. Acc. Reviewer ID 414

I rated this for grades 9-12, though the lessons indicate grades 6-12. I think it does skew a bit young but overall is still very well done.

Overall good curriculum. Good balance between facts and not overly scaring people, while still being welcoming enough if someone recognizes themselves in the lesson.

Med. Acc. Reviewer ID 415

Found curriculum medically accurate and appropriate

Med. Acc. Reviewer ID 416

This content site was well thought out and well done. The information was well researched with references provided. I thought it was great information that was age appropriate and appreciated the multifaceted avenues of communication including: videos, text, ppts, in text definitions of concepts, and expert interviews. The teacher's guide was also very thorough and easy to follow with built in testing to assess understanding of topics.



Reviewer ID 412

This is for 6-12 grades

This seems like it would be useful for trafficking and grooming prevention, but it is very limited in scope (though I think is good for the job it's trying to accomplish!)

Reviewer ID 401

Overall, I do believe this content is fact based and attempts to be trauma informed. While I believe that trafficking prevention is appropriate for this age group, the specific content of each lesson is not delivered in a way that I believe is most accessible to youth. The lesson plans do not provide timing guidelines, but I would say the information provided is too much for a 50–60-minute lesson, particularly given the suggested starting grade level being 5th grade. While I do believe that the content is accurate and important to share, it is too saturated and students are not provided with enough opportunities to engage with the content or other learning modalities beyond the presentation (like activities to meet education standards 4-8). I believe this will leave students unable to stay focused, follow along, or retain key information.

Additionally, while the videos may be animated, they still feel more tailored to more adult audiences.

The pornography lesson in particular feels a bit disjointed and seems to focus on shaming porn rather than educating about the key connections between porn and trafficking. It falsely claims that porn addictions are real, but the research in the field is still quite variable with nothing conclusive. I think it is problematic to frame porn as holistically bad when the target age group is 7th grade, knowing they will likely be exploring porn, and it could be better to discuss the ethics of it in tandem with online safety. Claiming that the porn industry works with traffickers to fuel exploitation is a bit misleading. While it is true that not all porn is ethically produced or distributed, this is a broad statement that made lead to shame amongst students.

I do approve of this overall but would suggest changes to make it more accessible to young people.

Reviewer ID 408

Each Youth lesson comes with objectives, teacher guidance, and a survey (pre/post). Each lesson comes with a lesson plan with vocabulary, discussion topics, a video script, and a survey. There are presentation slides with speaker notes. Each lesson has an animated video. In the lessons, there is a 5-year track for each grade level. Grades 9-10 would do Lessons 9-12. These are the Predator Series. Slideo can be utilized to increase engagement.

The materials do not include HIV/AIDS since they are based on a trafficking topic.



The slides script has cited resources and research.

Reviewer ID 405

This curriculum has many strengths: breadth of topics, combined staff/parent and student education, interactive anonymous polling tools, survivor-consulted content, trauma-informed educator guidance, and resources to implement schoolwide trafficking prevention and awareness. The adult lessons that precede the student curricula are informative.

I have mixed feelings about the student lessons themselves. I would probably use some but not all of them.

Each student lesson revolves around a short animated video. This is a digestible and engaging format, but the animations often depict young people in distress and are rarely empowered. I am concerned about the framing in several lessons. The facilitator guidance does promote safety and aims to avoid fear tactics...but I think a lot depends on who's delivering this—are they properly trained and are there proper student supports.

Extra:

“The Groomer” Series:

I liked the trustworthy vs unsafe adult’s lesson. I would not use the pornography lesson: while the link between trafficking and pornography is valid and important, the negative framing and focus on porn addiction could promote shame and disengage students. Some sources (e.g., NoFap and PurityisPossible) lack credibility. Porn media literacy/consent lessons without the moralistic stance would be more pedagogically sound.

“The Vulnerable” Series:

These lessons move beyond the vague “anyone can be trafficked” and get specific about who is at higher risk. The problem is that students who fit those risk profiles may feel like targets rather than feeling informed and empowered. Educators should seriously consider whether their staff have the training to support students who may identify with the content. The sextortion lesson is quite strong, though a few slides (sextortion scripts) need to be handled carefully.

“The Predator” Series:

There is a lot of useful vocabulary, and the content is generally balanced between statistics/risk factors and protective factors/help-seeking resources. The lessons break stereotypes about perpetrators and shift responsibility away from the victims. The content might be too abstract and heavy for middle school, but suitable for high school. Framing around pornography in the “hidden buyers” lesson is overstated and borderline moralistic.



Reviewer ID 409

The curriculum includes sufficient teaching materials, such as glossaries of terms, flyers, meeting agenda suggestions, and facilitator prompts. However, the main presentation itself is lacking; it is not an engaging curriculum for students and does not include SMART objectives. From my perspective, this is better suited as an awareness campaign or a one-time school-wide instructional event. It is not a comprehensive curriculum either; it focuses only on the risk factors for sexual exploitation and does not reference positive behaviors or encourage positive behaviors.

Reviewer ID 410

I think this is more appropriate for middle or early high school than late high school.

The videos and slides are good quality, but the lessons are not very interactive. They promote some discussion but are mainly lecture based with some quizzes. No activities provided. Lessons are fully structured with scripts and talking points and slides have instructions for presenters on how to modify, there are also adult education sections that provide extensive information in the topic including interviews with experts and knowledge quizzes. Some videos/PowerPoints get a little bit muddled because they stray from their main topic but overall provide good information. Some content is repetitive across modules, but these are meant to be provided over the span of several years, so I don't think that is bad. Good content warnings provided in slides. Script does not include teacher disclosure of being a mandated reporter, but it is included in the adult education. Many resources provided especially for victims of child pornography, however, while videos mention getting help from a trusted adult, many don't sessions give examples of who that could be. I like that there is a lesson specifically talking about boys as victims of sex trafficking, but the PowerPoint uses males (sex) a lot when I think boys/men (gender) would be more appropriate- this is a problem in several other videos as well. Overall, I felt like there was good inclusion of diverse sexual orientations but not of diverse gender representation including using binaries, using sex-based instead of gender-based language, talking about family tensions around sexual orientation but not gender. Good racial/ethnic representation but not good representation of disability, religion, or English language learners.

There is a typo on slide 44 of "Runaways as Targets". The reason I wouldn't use it is that it feels a little patronizing, and I think if I were a student I would disengage, especially since it is all lecture based. But I am not actually a teacher so please ignore this if it disagrees with educators' perspectives.

