



# Sexual Health Education Instructional Materials Review

## The Great Body Shop

Year Published: 2016

Publisher: The Children's Health Market

Website: <http://www.thegreatbodyshop.net/>

Full or Supplemental: Full

Grade Level: 3-5

Student Population: General

Duration/Number of Lessons: 10 monthly units per grade level, with 4 lessons per unit

Format and Features: Teacher's Guide, student issues, homework (including parent/child worksheets), monthly family bulletins (Spanish family bulletins available); all materials, including extensive teacher materials, available online

Evidence-based/informed: recognized in national/state registries as a "promising program"

National Standards Alignment: National Health Education Standards, Common Core State Standards

Consistent with Healthy Youth Act? Yes

Consistent with AIDS Omnibus Act? Yes

Bias Free Materials: see reviewer scores and comments

### Primary Topical Areas (Check all that apply)

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

## Reviewer Comments:

### Reviewer 15

Great Body Shop covers all the recommended topics in an inclusive, positive, and engaging way. The teacher's guide is easy to navigate and explains how to teach the material well. The areas it lacks are: a visual and labeling of female external reproductive anatomy, and identifying a safe adult to talk with about gender identity and sexual orientation. However, they do include talking with a safe adult in regard to other things, just not gender/orientation. Overall, this curriculum is comprehensive and well crafted.

The teacher's guide and student pamphlets are both easy to follow and engaging.

### Reviewer 19

I would highly recommend Great Body Shop as a comprehensive health curriculum, including sexual education and HIV/AIDS education.

The Great Body Shop would be very easy for a teacher to implement with no training. Everything that one would need to teach a comprehensive health curriculum, including risk taking behaviors and early sex ed, is included. I recommend GBS.

### Reviewer 20

On Page 2 of the Student Issue "HIV What you Need to Know" it states, "Eventually, most people with AIDS die because their bodies get so sick. However, today's medicines are really helping people with HIV live longer" This is not entirely medically accurate. People who are living with HIV and are on medications have not been shown to die sooner. Only those who either don't respond to the medications, or are not on the medications.

On Page 22 of the Great Body Shop "About Blood and HIV", IT STATES "For KIDS YOUR AGE, ABSTAINING FROM DRUGS AND SEX IS AN EASY, HEALTHY CHOICE AND YOUR RISK OF GETTING HIV is very slim"-This statement is not sensitive to the youth who are forced into sex, those who are assaulted and abused. This statement may make those youth who have had sex forced on them feel blame for their situation.

This curriculum is a very thorough HEALTH curriculum but I wish there was more information on reproductive anatomy, gender roles and gender identity, pregnancy, and healthy relationships. There is a good and thorough unit on emotions with lots of information on coping with stress, fear and anger and avoiding conflict. The lesson provides ample opportunities for practicing skills related to healthy expressions of emotions. The 4, 5 curriculum includes many good lessons on bullying but does not touch on bullying based on gender identity or sexual orientation.

### Reviewer 21

I love the format and idea of this curriculum. The materials are colorful and have a variety of activities. This curriculum does a great job incorporating families. I wish this curriculum were more inclusive. This curriculum was very neutral and not overtly biased, but was not inclusive either. It gave no information about gender identity, nor did it show diversity of family relationships. The anatomy portion only included female internal and male external. Puberty info was very gender-based. This curriculum was not as comprehensive as I would have wanted it to be for my classroom.

It was difficult to decide if the material was bias-free. Although it did not have overtly biased statements, it was also not inclusive of diversity.