

Comprehensive Sexual Health Education Instructional Materials Review 2023

Just Around the Corner – For Girls

Year Published/Revised: Not available

Publisher: Marsh Media

Website: <https://marshmedia.com/collections/puberty-dvds/products/just-around-the-corner-for-girls-dvd>

Full or Supplemental: Supplemental

Grade Level: Elementary and Middle School (Grades 4-6)

Student Population: General

Duration/Number of Lessons: One video

Format and Features: DVD video: 13:22 min.; Closed Captioned

Available in Multiple Languages: English, Spanish

Evidence-based/informed: No

National Standards Alignment: No

Consistent with WA Health Education Standards? Yes

Consistent with Comprehensive Sexual Health Education Law? With modification

Consistent with AIDS Omnibus Act? N/A

Inclusive Materials/Strategies: No

Bias-Free Materials: With modification



Primary Subject Areas Covered:

- 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:

Reviewer 302

While the A/V aspects are good, the video and animation feel very dated with outmoded animation and lacking diversity. The initial actor and main focus is a blond, blue-eyed girl, and there is a lack of diversity in both ability and body-types found in typical classrooms. Even though the video talks about self-esteem and mentions the false perfection of media, the media used to display a female body is a stereotypical hourglass figured Caucasian. As a 15-minute standalone, it's effective at discussing puberty but is unlikely to retain student attention for 15 minutes.

Reviewer 304

This product looks like it was made in the 90s. I don't think students will find it engaging, as it is simply a narrator telling them a list of things that will happen to them, rather than providing a plot with characters to see those things happen and how people might deal with the changes. There are no supportive texts/lesson plans/questions for teachers to use in conjunction. The forced gender binary is not only a dated idea, it's also not necessary here; most of the video is applicable to all genders and the anatomy specific information can be learned by all genders. The content is almost identical to the product made for boys, with the strong exceptions of anatomy and the idea that "almost all girls" have body image issues—ignoring the fact that boys may have similar issues.



Reviewer 309

Language and imagery do not reflect gender-diverse students, students with disabilities, or students with diverse family structures.

Most of the information does not need to be sex segregated.

Emphasis on the importance of appearance is consistent throughout the video. Twice the "looks" of "girls" is mentioned, once as a benefit of exercise. The discussion of body image states that it is more important for "girls" than for "boys." These comments perpetuate harmful gender stereotypes.

Reviewer 311

Just Around the Corner - for Girls was brief and manages to cover several topics quickly. This tool is outdated and asserts that puberty cannot be slowed down, so it does not educate youth on puberty suppressors (Blockers) which do just that. The product is exclusive of intersex and trans or gender diverse youth. The video does address media representation of females and the way this misrepresentation can make young femmes feel insecure or have negative body image which was a great segment to include. The animated body used to discuss anatomy is a white student, the same issue is present in the JATC- for Boys product. Overall, the product is outdated but can still be useable if the facilitator or teacher provides additional content from more up to date resources and provides ample space for discussing the gaps in this product's content. Best for 4-5th grade.

Reviewer 321

Overall, I thought the video was fine and informative. However, I thought the video seemed a little outdated and youth in grades 4-6 may struggle to pay attention to the information. An additional shortcoming of the video is that there aren't instructional materials to help evaluate student's learning or spark discussion. Regarding inclusivity, the video does not address diverse self-identities and uses binary gendered language.

Reviewer 322

This video is short, informative, uses age-appropriate (intended for grades 4-6) and normalizing language, covering the physical, social, and emotional changes that occur during puberty. It lacks resources or lessons to go with it. No closed captioning available at least in the way I accessed the video, but there is a Spanish version. Anatomical graphics are simple and approachable but incomplete (does not include any external anatomy of the vulva). I appreciate the inclusion of self-esteem, peer influence, and media's influence on body image. The topic of pregnancy and reproduction is not covered equally across the "girls" and "boys" versions of this material. It inadvertently places the responsibility of pregnancy only on "girls".

Overall, the material does not seem sufficiently inclusive, bias-free or culturally responsive. The material is highly gender-dichotomous in both its language and images; experiences of non-binary and trans youth are excluded. The cheerful tone leaves no space for the dysphoric changes experienced by some youth around puberty. There is some diverse representation in its actors, but in general lacking especially of gender, dis/ability, culture/religion, or body shape.



The audio and visual quality is good overall, but the footage and effects are outdated. Depiction of technology particularly needs modernizing (no mention of smart phones or social media). I found the visuals somewhat distracting from the narration. If I were to use this material, I would partner it with the “boys” anatomy section for more comprehensive instruction. More likely, I would try to find a different video altogether.

Reviewer 320 (Med/Sci)

This material discusses the impact of technology during puberty but is outdated in 2023.

OSPI Comments

This video is lacking in diversity. It is not inclusive of all students (e.g., students who identify as LGBTQ+ or students with disabilities), as required by law.

