

Comprehensive Sexual Health Education Instructional Materials Review

Health Smart Middle School

Year Published/Revised: 2020

Publisher: ETR

Website: <https://www.etr.org/healthsmart2/about-healthsmart/whats-new/#1>

Full or Supplemental: Full

Grade Level: Middle School (6-8)

Student Population: General

Duration/Number of Lessons: 25 lessons in the comprehensive sexual health unit

Format and Features: Online Textbook

Evidence-based/informed: Evidence-informed

National Standards Alignment: National Health Education, National Sexuality Education Standards

Consistent with WA Health Education Standards? Yes

Consistent with WA Comprehensive Sexuality Education Act? Yes

Consistent with WA AIDS Omnibus Act? Yes

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:

Reviewer 103

There are multiple Standard 1 Outcomes missing in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade specifically in the areas of sexual offenses, sexting, and sexual health care services.

The “textbook” information, including the PowerPoints are vague and over emphasizes abstinence in comparison to condom use and other contraceptives that will protect against unwanted pregnancy and STDs/STIs.

I didn’t see where there is an option for this curriculum in any language other than English. The ancillary material is more diverse than the textbook material.

Reviewer 111

This curriculum does a good job of providing step by step, scripted plans for teachers and the student handouts are all able to be accessed and typed on for distance learning. There is a terms, support for diverse learners, and standards section in the teacher guide for each lesson. How I accessed the information, it was pieced out instead of flowing from one part of the lesson to another and from lesson to lesson. However, there is an option to print the whole lesson. There are two options for end of unit assessments including rubrics. The language used is inclusive such as "A body with a penis" and using they/them in scenarios with names that are neutral. There is not information on STDs and very little information on HIV and 4 lessons on



abstinence. I wouldn't necessarily say the materials are fully inclusive, however they are not exclusive. They use characters in the videos that are green or purple. Instead of using diverse actors it is cartoon people with non-natural skin colors.

Reviewer 115

This curriculum does a very good job of reducing gender biased language in lessons. There are few gendered pronouns used when referring to people and situations. This provides an opportunity for the teacher to engage students in conversations about bias and stereotypes alongside the lesson.

If there are materials other than the parent letter available in various languages, they are not easy to find.

Reviewer 106

Very well laid-out. Begins with brief descriptions of each lesson with links to the easy-to-follow lesson plans. Each lesson includes "support for diverse learners" section and "supercharge techniques," It is visually appealing, engaging, and up to date. I would absolutely use this curriculum.

Accuracy Analysis Reviewer 123

Could be improved with the use of videos;

Lesson 4. For aspects of sexuality, add information to "Choices People Make Around sexual activity" about the emotional parts of being sexually active. There is only emphasis on pregnancy and STDs.

HPV vaccine. Would recommend inclusion with the health section as it is for cancer prevention. Best to rebrand this as cancer prevention and reiterate the information in Lesson 4.

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/hpv/public/index.html>

Lesson 8. Need to engage more fully around menstruation before leaping into pregnancy.

Talking more fully about periods would be more appropriate in order to discuss taboos, myths, shame, etc. How to obtain supplies, what supplies are available, how to use them, etc. Even better would be to have an additional lesson about pregnancy.

Lesson 11. Could use some discussion on coercion; peer pressure; desire to be liked; emotional consequences; myths and reality.

Abortion/pregnancy termination discussion needs to be longer and include more information. Seems like the emphasis is on maintaining the pregnancy.

Accuracy Analysis Reviewer 125

Very comprehensive curriculum and easy to navigate. The Teacher's Guide is full of great tools to engage students. The slides were simple to follow and reiterated key points. The statistics stated need to always have a source citation

