

Sexuality Health Education

Grade 2 (7-8 years old)



Pregnancy and Birth

Children will learn about the phenomenon of conception. This will include the organs involved in reproduction, period of fertility, fertilization and finally pregnancy. Children will also talk about the development of a fetus in the uterus to understand the complex process from start to finish.

Why? Children’s understanding of conception and birth has a positive influence on their future development. Cultures that foster the promotion of sharing information about sexuality generally are associated with a generation of youth who understand the phenomenon of conception and of birth. Children who do not have accurate information will tend to invent their own explanations, often based on myths.

1

POSITIVE ROLE

not just focus on the “risks” or prevention

2

LEARNING LEVELS

prepare students for learning content over the different ages

3

ESTABLISH TRUST

that is conducive to sharing and discussions

Comprises many dimensions



...biological, social, cultural, ethical, moral physical, etc.

Many sources of information



...peers, family, media, etc.

Present from 0-99



...develops over ages.

SEXUAL GROWTH AND BODY IMAGE

Children will learn to identify sexual organs of girls and boys. They will explore this from the perspective of parts outside the body, inside the body and functions of the sexual organs.

The children will discuss the importance of appreciating and taking care of their bodies. This will include things like knowing their bodies, appreciating their bodies, knowing correct terms for body parts, and their bodies needs.

Why? Learning about their bodies and appreciating them are part of the development stages of children and adolescents. New changes are visible and may sometimes lead those around us to consider someone more mature than they are thus modifying how we might interact with them or our expectations of them. Puberty takes place for all with individual variations and is essential in the steps towards romantic feelings and emerging sexual behaviours. Students adjust to these changes depending on when the changes first emerge, the rate the changes occur, and social norms that dictate the ideals of beauty.

Approach... provides the foundation for future sexuality education and should help students develop a positive body image and knowledge about how to keep themselves safe. It also continues a discussion about different body types thus allowing children to be more accepting of diverse body types.

EMOTIONAL AND ROMANTIC LIFE

Children will learn to recognize the various feelings that can be experienced in interpersonal relationships. They will explore the range of feelings towards the people in their life both positive and negative. They will discuss ways that feelings can be expressed to those they love, depending on who the person is and the feelings associated with that person.

Why? Children of this age value harmonious friendships, are more concerned with peer acceptance, develop an understanding of belonging and attempt to manage their emotions around their peers. They become more aware of social hierarchy and their feelings of aggression can be more damaging emotionally than physically. They associate with same sex peers but start to open up to the idea of a potential romantic partner. It is only during puberty that strong emotional feelings take on a sexual desire that can lead to an interaction with a potential partner. At this stage of development children choose their friends for practical reasons such as living near by, shared interests in toys or types of play.

Approach... should guide and support children in recognizing, managing and expressing their emotions in their interpersonal relationships.

