

DRIPPING SPRINGS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

HUMAN SEXUALITY CURRICULUM

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

In accordance with the Texas Education Code, 28.004 DSISD offers human sexuality instruction that:

1. Presents abstinence from sexual activity as the preferred choice of behavior in relationship to all sexual activity for persons unmarried of school age;
2. Devotes more attention to abstinence from sexual activity than to any other behavior;
3. Emphasizes that abstinence from sexual activity, if used consistently and correctly, is the only method that is 100 percent effective in preventing pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, infection with human immunodeficiency virus or acquired immune deficiency syndrome, and the emotional trauma associated with adolescent sexual activity;
4. Directs adolescents to a standard of behavior in which abstinence from sexual activity before marriage is the most effective way to prevent pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and infection with immunodeficiency virus or acquired immune deficiency syndrome; and
5. Teaches contraception and condom use in terms of human use reality rates, if instruction on contraception and condoms is included in curriculum content.

ACCESSING THE CURRICULUM

The full curriculum content can be accessed by logging into your parent account in Canvas. Printed copies of the full curriculum are also available for review in the campus administration office. An overview of the curriculum scope and sequence is provided on pages 2-3 of this document.

STUDENT PARTICIPATION

Student participation in the district's human sexuality instruction is voluntary. Before a student receives human sexuality instruction, the district must obtain written consent from the student's parent. Parents will be sent a request for written consent at least 14 days before the instruction. Students not participating in the instruction will have an alternate location to report for class and alternate assignments expanding upon the 7th grade science TEKS will be provided.

The portions of the curriculum taught by DSISD are described on the Curriculum Outline provided. After reviewing the curriculum content, please sign and return the form on the following page to reflect your child's participation or non-participation in the DSISD Human Sexuality Instruction taking place during 7th grade science classes beginning May. The curriculum series will take 5 class periods to complete.

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The DSISD Human Sexuality Curriculum has been compiled from chapters included in the Scott & White Wellness & Sexual Health 7th & 8th Grade Curriculum resources. The specific scope and sequence and instructional content recommended for inclusion is outlined below:

DAY 1

- Essential Human Needs (7th Grade Curriculum, Lesson 1)
 - Create ground rules that will promote a safe & comfortable learning environment.
 - Identify essential human needs and ways to meet them.
- Puberty, Anatomy, & Pregnancy (7th Grade Curriculum, Lesson 3)
 - Recognize the physical and emotional changes that occur during puberty and the benefits of remaining abstinent through this turbulent time.
 - **Remove activity entitled: "Dear Journal" (3A)*
 - Identify the functions of the structures of the reproductive systems in males and females.
 - Identify the hypothalamus and pituitary gland and state their role in puberty.
 - Summarize the processes of menstruation and pregnancy.

DAY 2

- Essential Human Needs (7th Grade Curriculum, Lesson 5)
 - Recognize positive and negative peer pressure.
 - Identify reasons some teens have sex.
 - Master the Yes, No, Yes technique for handling negative peer pressure.
- Sex & The Law (8th Grade Curriculum, Lesson 5)
 - Review the legal implications for teen sexual activity.
 - Acknowledge that sexual abuse is never the victim's fault.
 - Discuss the importance of reporting sexual abuse.
 - Construct an action plan to deal with sexual pressure.
 - State the age of consent for sexual activity in Texas.
 - Determine the difference between misdemeanor and felony sexual offenses.

DAY 3

- Character Matters (7th Grade Curriculum, Lesson 7)
 - Identify positive character traits in your best friend, a mentor, and themselves.
 - Identify individuals with great character.
 - Discuss the character traits they would like to develop and the means to acquire those traits.

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DAY 3

- Health Risks Behaviors & Decision Making (7th Grade Curriculum, Lesson 8)
 - Identify health risk behaviors as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 - Identify and apply the steps in making decisions.
 - Recognize the association between health risk behaviors and teen sexual activity.
 - Acknowledge the link between sexual activity in teens and emotional problems such as depression and suicide.
 - Review the importance of avoiding health risk behaviors and have an opportunity to sign a pledge card.

DAY 4

- Refusal Skills (7th Grade Curriculum, Lesson 9)
 - Identify and practice refusal skills.
 - Demonstrate mastery of refusal skills by role-playing.
- Making Good Choices (7th Grade Curriculum, Lesson 10)
 - Identify ways to make good choices that help avoid risky behaviors including sex.
 - Review the importance of meeting the five essential human needs in goal setting & decision making.
 - Construct an individual life plan.
 - Have an opportunity to sign a “Keys to Succeed” card.

DAY 5

- Sexually Transmitted Diseases (8th Grade Curriculum, Lesson 4)
 - Recognize the risk of contracting a sexually transmitted disease (STD) if sexually active as a teen.
 - Define sexual contact.
 - Express personal opinions on the topic of STD's.
 - Identify the major symptoms of the most common STD's.
 - Describe why abstinence is the healthiest choice and 100% effective against STD's.
- Contraception (8th Grade Curriculum, Lesson 10)
 - Discuss the most common contraceptive methods.
 - Describe why abstinence from sexual activity is the only 100% way to prevent pregnancy, STD's, and the emotional consequences of teen sexual activity.

Please contact your child's campus administrator, if you have any questions regarding the content or delivery of the 7th grade Human Sexuality Instructional implemented in DSISD.

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FAQ

Q: How will teachers talk about contraception?

A: We will follow the curriculum lessons related to contraception. These lessons include an explanation of how contraceptive devices work as well as the effectiveness rate of each device. The curriculum emphasizes that abstinence is the only action completely effective to prevent pregnancy & STI's.

Q: Does instruction include demonstrated use of contraception devices?

A: No. The objective of the instruction is specific to understanding that there are various methods of contraception and being aware of the correlating levels of effectiveness relative to prevention of pregnancy and STI's.

Q: If the teacher is teaching about contraceptives, are we teaching kids that having sex is "okay"?

A: The curriculum being taught includes factual information about effectiveness rates of contraceptives. Teachers will not be advocating for teenage sexual activity.

Q: How will teachers handle homosexuality, transgender, etc?

A: Due to different religious, cultural, and personal beliefs, teachers will refer students back to their parents to discuss the topic. We will also refer back to the "Ground Rules" to remind them of the respect level that needs to be maintained in the classroom.

Q: How will teachers talk about cyber-sex issues?

A: Students will be made aware of what 'cyber-sex' and 'sexting' are and the related legal issues. Students will be referred to their parents for deeper discussions such as the emotional ramification of these issues.

Q: Do teachers talk about abortion?

A: No. If a question arises surrounding this, students are referred back to parents or trusted adults to have this conversation.

Q: How will teachers talk about religious views regarding sex?

A: Teachers will not discuss any religious views related to sex education. We encourage students to talk to their parents about their values