

# Seventh Grade Family Life Presentation

## Objectives

1. Overview of Puberty
2. Students will identify their role and relationships within the family
3. Students will identify issues associated with friendships and peer groups as well as the nature of dating
4. Students will recognize the development of their sex characteristics and how they affect emotional and social growth
5. Students will recognize that sexual behaviors are conscious decisions/Abstinence
6. Students will identify messages in society related to sexuality
7. Students will discuss alternatives to drug use, misuse and abuse

All classes are taught in gender separated environments. Questions are allowed and students are permitted to write questions anonymously on an index card at the end of each class.

Audio visual materials are available to view by parents by upon request. Descriptions of the videos are provided in the Resource Section of this material.

The Presentation follows The Virginia Family Life Education Board of Education Guidelines and Standards of Learning for Virginia Public Schools. The standards for seventh grade are as follows.

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## STANDARDS OF LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTIVE STATEMENTS

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### SEVENTH GRADE

- 7.1 The student will identify his or her role and relationships within the family.**  
Descriptive Statement: Content includes identification of personal interactions; communication skills; ways of meeting emotional, physical, and intellectual needs; and the student's contribution to the family unit. Students learn the positive benefits of personal sacrifice to support family goals and needs when such a decision is indicated.
- 7.2 The student will recognize the physical development of his or her sex characteristics and how they affect emotional and social growth.**  
Descriptive Statement: Emphasis is placed on the biological and physiological changes of early adolescence. Attention is given to such secondary sex characteristics as body growth, genital changes, hormonal secretions, the onset of menstruation, and sex-response feelings. Instruction promotes self-awareness and alleviates anxiety through factual information regarding

menstruation, spontaneous erections, nocturnal emissions, masturbation, and differences in growth rates and development.

**7.3 The student will realize that physical affection does not have to be sexual, but it also can be an expression of friendship, of celebration, or of a loving family.**

Descriptive Statement: The student learns that appropriate expressions of affection are essential for emotional, physical, and psychological health. The student will recognize the difference between appropriate and inappropriate physical affection. Characteristics of abusive relationships will be addressed.

**7.4 The student will recognize that sexual behaviors are conscious decisions; that it is important to say "no" to premarital, abusive, and inappropriate sexual relationships; and that appropriate relationships are based on mutual respect, trust, and caring.**

Descriptive Statement: Sexual feelings are interpreted as normal and to be expected, but not always to be manifested in behavior. Instruction includes explanation of the differences between needs and desires, assertive skills, problem solving or conflict resolution, and alternatives. Refusal skills are taught and practiced by students. Characteristics of abusive relationships, which may also involve alcohol and other drug use and abuse or inappropriate use of electronic devices such as phone or internet, are addressed. In addition, the consequences of teenage pregnancy, the nature of sexually transmitted infections, and the benefits of delaying sexual activity are discussed.

**7.5 The student will identify messages in society related to sexuality.**

Descriptive Statement: The teacher guides the student in discovering and analyzing messages about sexuality found in advertising media, music and videos, television, films, printed materials, and graffiti. Students learn to recognize gender stereotyping and sexual exploitation. They are encouraged to evaluate and counteract any negative effects identified and to engage in a variety of positive activities, rather than spending too much time viewing media containing negative components. Students will demonstrate how these messages affect mental health issues related to sexuality.

**7.6 Students will explore safety issues related to the Internet.**

Descriptive Statement: Instruction includes how predators can use the Internet to exploit young people, to include human (child/teen sex) trafficking; common techniques and lures used by internet predators; information posted to social media sites that makes students vulnerable, and strategies for protecting personal information and seeking adult support in uncomfortable situations.

**7.7 The student will be aware of the consequences of preteen and teenage sexual intercourse.**

Descriptive Statement: Instruction focuses on updated, factual information regarding sexually transmitted infections, including HIV; pelvic inflammatory disease (PID); cervical cancer; unintended pregnancy; and discussion about reputation, guilt, and anxiety. Discussion also includes the emotional, psychological and financial implications of sexual activity and parenting before marriage. Students are guided in identifying positive aspects about themselves as reasons for avoiding risk-taking behavior. They learn also about the positive results and freedoms associated with postponing sexual activity.

**7.8 The student will list the adverse consequences of a pregnancy in early adolescence, as well as the positive benefits of postponing pregnancy until marriage.**

Descriptive Statement: Instruction includes a review of pregnancy and childbirth from previous grade levels, as well as discussion of responsibilities involved and adverse consequences

encompassing the emotional, mental, physical, social, and economic impact on young parents, on their families, and on society. The nutritional implications of high-risk infants and teenage mothers also are included. The effects of an adolescent pregnancy on the student's lifelong goals and potential achievements are emphasized. The benefits of being married before having children and the effects on the family, child, and community will be discussed.

**7.9 The student will describe the signs and symptoms of pregnancy.**

Descriptive Statement: Instruction involves physical and psychological changes and the need for early detection of pregnancy through medical testing to ensure a healthy and successful pregnancy. Community resources for testing and/or further information are identified.

**7.10 The student will develop an understanding of and responsibility for family planning.**

Descriptive Statement: Content includes reasons for family planning, factors to be considered when planning a family, the role of the family physician, community resources, and methods of contraception.

**7.11 The student will explain techniques for preventing and reporting sexual assault and molestation.**

Descriptive Statement: Methods of handling assault and molestation, as well as prevention methods, are presented. Emphasis is placed on the importance of avoiding situations which could provide opportunities for molestation and sexual assault, including the homes and cars of acquaintances when no appropriate supervision is available. Students will practice appropriate use of the internet and text messaging. Key terms are defined. Approaches and behaviors, both in person and electronically, used by perpetrators are identified and explained. The signs of human sex trafficking and how to seek adult assistance will be discussed. Community resources for victims of molestation and assault are identified.

**7.12 The student will identify causes, symptoms, treatment, prevention, and transmission of sexually transmitted infections, including HIV.**

Descriptive Statement: Topics include the prevention, symptoms, treatment, transmission, and diagnosis of the following diseases in addition to HIV, Chlamydia, Genital Herpes, Gonorrhea, HPV, and Syphilis. In addition, myths are dispelled. High-risk activities, such as needle sharing for injection, intravenous drug use and abuse, and unprotected sexual activity are discussed. Community resources that provide testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections and HIV are identified.

**7.13 The student will identify the issues associated with friendships.**

Descriptive Statement: The student accomplishes this by identifying characteristics of each type of friendship and how friendships can change through developmental stages. The student will identify the characteristics of healthy and unhealthy relationships.

**7.14 The student will realize the role of peers and the peer group during adolescence, and the nature and purpose of dating.**

Descriptive Statement: Discussion focuses on the qualities of friendship, the importance of participating in peer groups that encourage the development of positive personal traits, and the nature of dating. Group dating is presented as a positive first step in developing romantic relationships, demonstrating appropriate and inappropriate dating behavior, utilizing positive mental health practices and fulfilling dating responsibilities.

**7.15 The student will recognize contributions of various racial and ethnic groups to family life and society.**

Descriptive Statement: Topics include the importance of racial and ethnic identity for families and the effects of negative stereotypes on families and individuals. Emphasis is placed on appreciation of racial and ethnic differences.

**7.16 The student will increase his or her ability to listen to different points of view and to accept the rights of others to a differing point of view.**

Descriptive Statement: Positive communication skills are developed to enhance relationships and to increase recognition of various points of view existing within families and society.

## **Resources**

### **People**

School Nurse

### **Charts**

The Endocrine System  
Diagrams of the Reproductive Organs

### **Audio Visuals**

**Growing up for Girls:** (ONLY shown to Girls) 14:34 minute Marsh Media Video

*Growing Up for Girls* promotes self-confidence as girls face challenges of change and growth. This video provides information about the female reproductive system. It also details the emotional and physical transformations of puberty. *Growing Up for Girls* provides useful advice on health, hygiene and nutrition and encourages positive body image and sense of personal worth.

**Growing up for Boys:** (ONLY shown to Boys) 11:55 minute Marsh Media Video

*Growing Up for Boys* Promotes self-confidence as boys try to cope with the physical and psychological changes that are a normal part of growing up. This video encourages boys to take pride in their uniqueness while realizing that people are often reassuringly alike. *Growing Up for Boys* provides useful advice on health, hygiene and nutrition and fosters the self-esteem that comes with accepting new responsibilities and points to reliable sources for information during these sometimes difficult times.

**How to End Unhealthy Relationships** 16:00 minute Human Relations Media Video

This video offers teens insight on how to honestly assess the health of relationships, particularly romantic relationships and friendships. It then presents the students with steps to end unhealthy relationships. Real teens share their experiences covering a broad spectrum of unhealthy relationships from once good friendships, to bad romantic relationships and even abusive relationships.

**Straight Talk about Sexual choices and Consequences:** 18:42 minute Marsh Media Video

This video features a show within a show. It helps young people resolve important growing up issues. There is a brief overview of the male and female reproductive systems. There are discussions about the responsibility of decision making, healthy relationships, STIs and pregnancy. The video provides valuable insights to real-life problems, helping boys and girls to react responsibly.

**Ten Ways to Stay Safe on the Internet** 22:00 Minutes Human relations Media

Digitally smart teens need to understand and avoid the consequences of putting very private personal information and photos onto social networking sites, email, chatrooms, blogs, and websites. This program encourages teens to consider their posts before they click, protect their passwords, regularly monitor their online profiles and privacy settings, check tags in postings from others and more. Teens are encouraged to be aware of tracking technologies abuses, the dangers of texting and driving, anonymous (not!) apps, social network platforms, sexting, cyber bullying, and safe surfing and downloading practices.