

Reporting Sexual Abuse

Grades 4-6, Lesson #8

Time Needed

25-35 minutes

Student Learning Objectives

To be able to ...

1. Identify parents or other trusted adults to tell if a child has been sexually abused.
2. Demonstrate how to communicate care and concern for others to promote healthy relationships.
3. Give 2 reasons it is important to report sexual abuse.

Agenda

1. Explain reasons for this lesson.
2. Use the *Sexual Abuse Prevention Worksheet* to review lesson 7.
3. Use the *Sexual Abuse Prevention Visual* to teach how to respond to a friend's disclosure.
4. Answer "Anonymous Question Box" questions regarding sexual exploitation.

This lesson was most recently edited November 2021.

Elementary FLASH Grades 4-6

Materials Needed

Classroom Materials:

- *Sexual Abuse Prevention Visual*

Student Materials: (for each student)

- *Sexual Abuse Prevention Worksheet*

Activity

1. Explain reasons for this lesson.

Explain that this lesson will review yesterday's lesson and help students consider how they might help themselves or a friend if they did experience sexual abuse.

2. Use the *Sexual Abuse Prevention Worksheet* to review lesson 7.

- a. Individually, or in teams of 2-4 people, have students fill in items on the worksheet as a refresher from yesterday's lesson.
- b. Discuss the worksheets aloud, suggesting that they are welcome to add or change answers as you all share.
- c. Explain that people tell friends more often than any other group. *We're going to talk today about what to do if a friend tells you they've been sexually abused.*

3. Show the *Sexual Abuse Prevention Visual*.

- a. Discuss each item, asking students to describe in very concrete terms what each behavior might look and sound like.
 - **Listen.** Don't watch something else or look at your phone while your friend is talking. Don't change the subject. Just lean forward and show you are listening by looking at them while they talk.
 - **Believe them.** People don't often lie about sexual abuse. Say "I believe you."
 - **Show you care.** Be serious. Don't make jokes about your friend's feelings. Tell them you are sorry this happened to them.
 - **Don't blame them.** It is NEVER the victim's fault. Even if they did something risky or against the rules, it is still the fault of the abuser.
 - **Confidentiality.** DO help your friend to tell an adult who can help or tell the adult yourself if your friend is too scared. DON'T tell other classmates because your friend's feelings are at stake. They trusted you.
- b. In a class discussion, apply the tips in the *Sexual Abuse Prevention Visual* to a sexual abuse scenario.

We just learned a lot of ways to be helpful. Now we're going to talk about how to use these skills if a friend had been sexually abused.

One example of sexual abuse is for an adult to show a child a private part of their body when they normally would have their clothes on. This is different from a parent drying off from a shower or a person changing their clothes in a locker room. In this example, a kid's older neighbor showed them a private part of their body on purpose on the drive to school. The kid tells their friend about it.

- *How could the friend who is hearing this show that they are listening and that they care?*
- *How could they help their friend tell an adult?*
- *What adult could they tell, even if their friend didn't want anyone to know?*

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Nice job, everyone. I can see that everyone learned a lot about how to help a friend.

4. Respond to "Anonymous Question Box" and verbal questions re: sexual abuse.

Remind students of the ground rule that nobody will share private information about someone else publicly.

Homework

Students' options:

- **Family Homework:** We learned that sometimes adults or older kids touch kids sexually, even though it's against the law and it's never okay. We also learned that if this happens it is very important to tell someone. Who are three people I could tell if this ever happened to someone I know?
- **Individual Homework:** You learned in class today that sometimes adults or older kids touch kids sexually, even though it's against the law and it's never okay. You also learned that if this happens it is very important to tell someone. Make a list of people you could tell if an adult or older kid ever touched someone you know in a sexual way.

Sexual Abuse Prevention Worksheet

NAME _____ DATE _____

1. Write a definition of consent and give one example.

2. Sometimes people try to get others to say yes by tricking or threatening them. Explain why this is not consent.

3. If an adult tries to touch a kid sexually, what could a kid do?

4. If a kid has been sexually abused, name 3 adults they could tell:

5. Why is it important for a kid to tell somebody if they have been sexually abused, even if they promised to keep it secret? Give at least two reasons.

6. If your friend were sexually abused and told you about it, name three ways you could be of help:

Visual

Sexual Abuse Prevention

5 THINGS A FRIEND CAN DO

- 1. Listen.**
- 2. Believe them.**
- 3. Show you care.**
- 4. Don't blame them.**
- 5. Tell an adult, not other classmates.**



Sexual Abuse Prevention Worksheet - Answer Key

NAME _____ DATE _____

1. Write a definition of consent and give one example.

Consent is permission or agreement to do something. It is saying okay without being
tricked or threatened.

2. Sometimes people try to get other to say yes by tricking or threatening them. Explain why this is not consent.

Consent is saying yes because you want to, not because someone is making you

3. If an adult tries to touch a kid sexually, what could a kid do?

Say no loudly and leave right away if they can

4. If a kid has been sexually abused, name 3 adults they could tell:

Parent, teacher, counselor, family member, friend, friend's parent, clergy, family friend

5. Why is it important for a kid to tell somebody if they have been sexually abused, even if they promised to keep it secret? Can you think of two reasons?

It is the only way to get help and to get the abuser to stop

6. If your friend were sexually abused and told you about it, name three ways you could be of help:

Listen, believe them, help them tell an adult who can help, tell an adult for them if they
are too scared