

# sexual health education checklist

This checklist is adapted from Saleema Noon's book for parents, Talk Sex Today. It is intended to be a guide for parents to know what to teach their children and when.

# preschool checklist - ptogr.1

Your preschooler needs to know:

- the three private parts of the body: mouth, breasts, and genitals,
- that they have ownership of their bodies (basics of consent),
- the scientific words related to anatomy and reproduction (i.e. vulva, penis, testicles, vagina, urethra, anus, uterus),
- that reproduction happens when a sperm joins an egg, usually (but not always) through sexual intercourse,
- that the baby grows in the uterus (not the stomach),
- that the baby is usually born through the vagina,
- that families are formed in different ways and are all unique,
- not to pick up condoms or needles.

Bonus points (will not be covered in Body Science presentations due to limitations in time):

- basics about gender stereotypes,
- basics about periods and wet dreams.

# primary checklist - gr.2-3

Your primary child needs to know everything preschoolers need to know, plus:

• the basics about periods and wet dreams as clean and healthy processes.

Bonus points (will not be covered in Body Science presentations due to limitations in time):

more about body and emotional changes during puberty.



# books for kindergarten to grade 3 body scientists

- Boys, Girls and Body Science. By Meg Hickling, published by Harbor Publishing.
- What Makes a Baby? By Cory Silverberg, published by Triangle Square.
- What's the Big Secret? Talking about sex with girls and boys. By Laurie and Marc Brown, published by Little.
- It's Not the Stork! By Robie Harris, published by Candlewick Press.
- Making a Baby. By Rachel Greener, published by Dial Books, published by CreateSpace.
- It Isn't RUDE to be NUDE. By Rosie Haine, published by Tate.
- Zak's Safari: A Story about Donor-Conceived Kids of Two-Mom Families. By Christie Tyner, published by CreateSpace.
- Julian is a Mermaid. By Jessica Love, published by Walker Books Ltd.
- I am Jazz. By Jessica Herthel, published by Dial Books.
- The Different Dragon. By Jennifer Bryan, published by Two Loves Publishing.
- Molly's Family. By Nancy Garden, published by Straux and Giroux.
- Red: A Crayon's Story. By Michael Hall, published by Greenwillow Books
- Consent (for Kids!): Boundaries, Respect, and Being in Charge of YOU. By Rachel Brian, published by Little, Brown Books for Young Readers
- C is for Consent. By Eleanor Morrison, published by by Phonics with Finn.
- Let's Talk about Body Boundaries, Consent and Respect, Some Secrets Should Never be Kept and My Body! What I Say Goes! (Also available in Indigenous edition). By Jayneen Sanders, published by Educate2Empower.
- An Exceptional Children's Guide to Touch: Teaching Social and Physical Boundaries to Kids. By McKinley Hunter Manasco, published by Jessica Kingsley Publishers.
- Only For Me. By Michelle Derrig, published by Publicious Pty Ltd.



# intermediate checklist - gr.4-5

Your intermediate child needs to know everything the previous age groups have learned, plus:

- the responsibilities that come with the decision to be in a sexual relationship,
- basic information about sexually transmitted infections (STIs),
- more about the different ways that families are formed, and that all families (for example, single parent, blended, divorced, gay, adoptive) deserve respect,
- that homophobic and transphobic language, jokes, and attitudes are unacceptable,
- all about physical and emotional changes at puberty,
- basic assertiveness skills,

Bonus points (will not be covered in Body Science presentations due to limitations in time):

- skills that foster a healthy body image,
- digital and media literacy (including pornography),
- how to act responsibly and stay safe on the Internet.

# intermediate checklist - gr.6-7

Your intermediate child needs to know everything the previous age groups have learned, plus:

- smart decision making regarding social media, including discussion of cyber-bullying, sexting, and selfies,
- how to think critically about pornography,
- more about sexual consent in the context of relationships,
- how to think critically about gender stereotypes,
- what makes for a healthy relationship,
- factors to consider when exploring emotional readiness for a sexual relationship,
- the different types of sexual activity and possible physical outcomes: STIs (myths, transmission, prevention, testing and treatment) and pregnancy,
- that most teens are not sexually active,
- about condoms and emergency contraception (EC) use,
- the importance of taking responsibility of one's health (for example, testicular self-examinations) and where to go for confidential support.

## books for children in puberty

- The Care and Keeping of You and other American Girl Series for girls aged 8 and up.
- Wait, What? A Comic Book Guide to Relationships, Bodies and Growing Up. By Heather Corinna, published by Limerence Press.
- The Body Book for Boys. By Grace Norwich, published by Scholastic.
- The Boy's Body Book: Everything You Need to Know for Growing Up You. By Kelli Dunham, published by Applesauce Press.
- It's Perfectly Normal: Changing Bodies, Growing Up and Sexual Health. By Robie H. Harris, published by Candlewick Press.
- **Puberty Boy.** By Geoff Price, published by Allen and Unwin.
- **Puberty Girl.** By Shushann Movsessian, published by Allen and Unwin.
- What's Happening to Me? Published by Usborne Books. www.usborne.com
- Go with the Flow. By Lily Williams and Karen Schneemann, published by First Second.

# adolescent checklist - gr.8-12

Your teen needs to know everything the previous age groups have learned. They should also know:

- about sexual consent and how to express their boundaries assertively
- how to cope with a break-up
- about the proper use of condoms, oral contraception, and IUDs
- about STI and pregnancy myths
- about the availability of and have access to community sexual health resources
- pregnancy options
- what to expect during a sexual health examination

### They should also have:

- a deeper understanding of healthy versus unhealthy relationships
- relationship and sexual decision-making skills, as well as effective communication skills
- safety agreements for going to parties

### And they should understand:

- the pressure placed on teens to be sexually active
- their personal sexuality-related values and boundaries
- the impact of our hyper-sexualized society

### books for teens

- S.E.X.: The All-You-Need-To-Know Progressive Sexuality Guide to Get You Through High School and College. By Heather Corinna, published by Da Capo Press.
- The Guy Book: A User's Manual. By Mavis Jukes, published by Crown Books for Young Readers.
- Our Bodies, Ourselves. By Boston Women's Health Book Collective, published by Simon and Schuster.
- Girl Up: Kick ass, claim your woman card and crush everyday feminism. By Laura Bates, published by Simon and Schuster.
- Consent: The New Rules of Sex Education: Every Teen's Guide to Healthy Sexual Relationships. By Dr. Jennifer Lang, published by Althea Press.
- **Girl: Love, Sex, Romance, and Being You.** By Dr. Karen Rayne, published by Magination Press.
- Trans+: Love, Sex, Romance, and Being You. By Dr. Karen Rayne, published by Magination Press.

### websites for teens

- scarleteen.com
- optbc.org
- blush.vch.ca
- sexandu.ca
- goaskalice.com
- iwannaknow.org
- lacigreen.tv
- qmunity.ca
- periodaisle.com



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# books for parents

- **Talk Sex Today.** By Saleema Noon and Meg Hickling, published by Wood Lake.
- Queen Bees and Wannabes. By Rosalind Wiseman, published by Three Rivers Press.
- Beyond Birds and Bees. By Bonnie J. Rough, published by Seal Press.
- Breaking the Hush Factor: Ten Rules for Talking with Teenagers about Sex. By Dr. Karen Rayne, published by Impetus Books.

# books celebrating diverse families

- Love Makes a Family. By Sophie Beer, published by Hardie Grant Egmont.
- **The Different Dragon.** By Jennifer Bryan, published by Two Loves Publishing.
- **Molly's Family.** By Nancy Garden, published by Straus and Giroux.
- **My Family, Your Family.** By Lisa Bullard, published by Millbrook Press.
- The Family Book. By Todd Parr, published by Little, Brown Books for Young Readers.
- And Tango Makes Three. By Justin Richardson, published by Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers.
- Mommy, Mama, and Me and Daddy, Papa, and Me. By Leslea Newman, published by Tricycle

# mebsites for kids

- amaze.org
- sexedschool.ca
- kidshealth.org

# websites for parents

- optbc.org
- scarleteen.com
- sexandu.ca
- urbandictionary.com
- pflagcanada.ca
- teachingsexualhealth.ca
- sexpositivefamilies.com
- sexedrescue.com
- birdsandbeesandkids.com
- beheroes.net

# onsafety

- mediasmarts.ca
- commonsensemedia.com
- safeonline.ca
- kidsafe.ca
- kidshelpphone.ca
- cyberbullying.ca
- lifecake.com
- mediatedreality.com

# on empowerment

- newmoon.org
- solegirls.org
- safeteen.ca
- boyslife.com
- pinkshirtday.ca
- goodmenproject.com
- amysmartgirls.com
- gday.world



Smart decisions start here.

