

Health Education – 6th Grade

(1) In health education, students acquire the health information and skills necessary to become healthy adults and learn about behaviors in which they should and should not participate. To achieve that goal, students will understand the following: students should first seek guidance in the area of health from their parents; personal behaviors can increase or reduce health risks throughout the lifespan; health is influenced by a variety of factors; students can recognize and utilize health information and products; and personal/interpersonal skills are needed to promote individual, family, and community health.

(2) In middle school, students learn about health behaviors that will safeguard their health as well as information related to understanding puberty and the reproductive process. Students are taught about factors in their environment that impact, not only their health and the health of their families, but the health of their communities as well. Middle school students learn to refine their critical-thinking skills to avoid unsafe situations, analyze health information and products, and maintain healthy relationships. Students begin to investigate health in the broader context of community.

(6.1) Health information. The student comprehends ways to enhance and maintain personal health throughout the life span. The student is expected to:

(A) analyze healthy and unhealthy dietary practices;

(B) explain the importance of a personal dietary and exercise plan;

(C) compare immediate and long-range effects of personal health care choices such as personal and dental hygiene;

(D) identify causes and affects associated with poor body image such as eating disorders and growth patterns;

(E) examine the concept of cost versus effectiveness of health-care products;

(F) describe the mental, physical, and social benefits of regular exercise and fitness;

(G) describe the importance of establishing and implementing a periodic health-maintenance clinical assessment; and

(H) demonstrate strategies for managing stress.

(6.2) Health information. The student recognizes ways that body structure and function relate to personal health throughout the life span. The student is expected to:

(A) analyze the relationships among the body systems;

(B) describe changes in male and female anatomy and physiology during puberty;

(C) analyze the role of hormones as they relate to growth and development and personal health; and

(D) describe menstrual health and identify the relationship to reproduction.

(6.3) Health information. The student comprehends and utilizes concepts relating to health promotion and disease prevention. The student is expected to:

(A) describe various modes of disease transmission;

(B) compare healthy cell growth to cell growth in the disease process; and

(C) list noncommunicable and hereditary diseases and respective prevention and treatment techniques.

(6.4) Health information. The student comprehends ways of researching, accessing, and analyzing health information. The student is expected to:

(A) list ways to evaluate health products, practices, and services such as sunblocks, dietary aides, and over-the-counter medications; and

(B) use critical thinking to research and evaluate health information.

(6.5) Health behaviors. The student engages in behaviors that reduce health risks throughout the life span. The student is expected to:

(A) analyze the use and abuse of prescriptions and non-prescription medications such as over-the-counter;

(B) examine social influences on drug-taking behaviors;

(C) describe chemical dependency and addiction to tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs and substances;

(D) explain the relationship between tobacco, alcohol, drugs, and other substances and the role these items play in unsafe situations such as drinking and driving and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)/Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) transmission;

(E) identify ways to prevent the use of tobacco, alcohol, drugs, and other substances such as alternative activities;

(F) demonstrate an understanding of basic first-aid procedures;

(G) demonstrate strategies for the prevention of and response to deliberate and accidental injuries such as using conflict resolution skills instead of fighting and wearing a seat belt;

(H) identify and describe strategies for avoiding drugs, violence, gangs, weapons, and other harmful situations; and

(I) explain the consequences of sexual activity and the benefits of abstinence.

(6.6) Influencing factors. The student understands how factors in the environment influence individual and community health. The student is expected to:
(A) identify factors that affect an individual's physical, emotional, and social health such as school climate and safety measures; and
(B) make healthy choices from among environmental alternatives such as leaving a smoke-filled room or selecting healthy snacks from vending machines.
(6.7) Influencing factors. The student recognizes how relationships influence individual health behaviors including skills necessary for building and maintaining relationships. The student is expected to:
(A) differentiate between positive and negative relationships that can affect individual health such as clubs, gangs, or families;
(B) explain ways of maintaining healthy relationships such as resisting peer pressure to engage in unsafe behavior;
(C) practice conflict resolution/mediation skills;
(D) describe strategies such as abstinence for communicating refusal to engage in unsafe behaviors; and
(E) describe methods for communicating important issues with parents and peers.
(6.8) Influencing factors. The student comprehends how media and technology influence individual and community health. The student is expected to:
(A) identify and analyze various media and technologies that influence individual and community health such as computer software and the World Wide Web; and
(B) explain the relationship between health needs and technology development such as the development of a Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) vaccine.
(C) recognize that idealized images of the human body and performance as presented by the media may not be appropriate to imitate.
(6.9) Influencing factors. The student differentiates between positive and negative family influences. The student is expected to:
(A) develop strategies for supporting and respecting all family members; and
(B) identify strategies for coping with unhealthy behaviors in the family such as abuse, alcoholism, and neglect.
(6.10) Personal/interpersonal skills. The student describes healthy ways to communicate consideration and respect for self, family, friends, and others. The student is expected to:
(A) demonstrate ways to communicate empathy to others and have consideration for others;
(B) assess healthy ways of responding to disrespectful behaviors such as mediation;
(C) practice methods for self-control;
(D) describe healthy ways to express affection and love;
(E) describe ways to manage anxiety and grief;
(F) define stress and its effects on individual health and relationships; and
(G) identify stressors and their impact on the health of the individual and family.
(6.11) Personal/interpersonal skills. The student analyzes information and applies critical-thinking, decision-making, goal-setting and problem-solving skills for making health-promoting decisions. The student is expected to:
(A) seek the input of parents and other trusted adults in problem solving and goal setting;
(B) demonstrate the use of refusal skills in unsafe situations;
(C) explain the impact of peer pressure on decision making;
(D) compare the risks and benefits of various health behaviors such as choosing not to smoke; and
(E) identify the possible health implications of long-term personal and vocational goals.