



# Sexual Health Education Instructional Materials Review

## Curriculum Title: Safe@Last

Year Published: 1998 (revised annually)

Publisher: BeSafeAtLast - Sexual Assault Center

Website: [besafeatlast.com](http://besafeatlast.com)

Full or Supplemental: Supplemental

Grade Level: K-6

Student Population: General

Duration/Number of Lessons: Varies by grade level

Format and Features: Web-based

Evidence-based/informed: Not evident

National Standards Alignment: Health, American School Counselor Association Learning Standards

Healthy Youth Act Compliance: No (see reviewer comments, scores)

AIDS Omnibus Act Compliance: N/A

Bias Free Materials: No (see reviewer comments, scores)

### Primary Topical Areas (Check all that apply)

- |                                                        |                                                             |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abortion                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Identity/Orientation               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abstinence                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Online Safety                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to Services            | <input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy & Reproduction           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anatomy and Physiology        | <input type="checkbox"/> Puberty/Adolescent Development     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication/Decision-making | <input type="checkbox"/> Refusal Skills                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Condom Use                    | <input type="checkbox"/> STD Prevention                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consent                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Personal Safety) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contraception                 |                                                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Healthy relationships         |                                                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HIV Prevention                |                                                             |

## Reviewer Comments:

### Reviewer 204

Reviewed the first-grade lessons. First 2 lessons (of 4 total) were on STRANGER DANGER. As 86% of child sex abuse perpetrators are known to the victim, this information created the impression that the statistics are the other way around. Teaches that "we keep from getting hurt at school" by following the rules which implies that if they are hurt, it's because they broke a rule and therefore are responsible for having been hurt. Defines kisses and hugs as "safe touch" and teaches that no one can touch their private body parts EXCEPT to keep them clean and healthy. How would a child know what's needed to keep them "clean and healthy"? The PPT is all words. Apparently, the children sit in class and look at the wall of words as the teacher reads them out to them. Hardly engaging. Because of the emphasis on stranger danger and definitions of safe touch I can NOT recommend any part of this as prevention education.

### Reviewer 202

"Safe at Last" is a personal safety curriculum, not a sexual assault prevention curriculum. Much of the information presented in the lessons is important for students to know, absolutely, but it does nothing to promote actual prevention and does not in any way convey that preventing sexual violence is possible. The lessons convey to students that bad things will happen to you, that it is an inevitable part of life, and that you need to know how to get away, be safe, tell a safe adult, and that this alone will prevent sexual violence. In the K-6 lessons there is barely any mention of positive relationship behaviors such as asking for consent, respecting boundaries, and healthy communication. Boundaries are mentioned but only in terms of knowing when your boundaries are violated and how to disclose to a safe adult. The evidence and research show that this is a very ineffective way to attempt to prevent violence, and that it actually causes more harm than good.

### Reviewer 109

This is a good curriculum to be used by teachers in the classroom. It provides teachers teaching aids to make it easy to implement. It does not address consent.