



# Sexual Health Education Instructional Materials Review

## Healthy Relationships and Sexuality (Teen Health)

Year Published: 2014

Publisher: Glencoe/McGraw Hill

Website: <https://www.mheducation.com/prek-12/product/teen-health-healthy-relationships-sexuality-mcgraw-hill/9780076640447.html>

Full or Supplemental: Full/supplemental (can be offered as a standalone course or as part of the full Glencoe Teen Health curriculum)

Grade Level: 6-8

Student Population: General

Duration/Number of Lessons: 11 lessons

Format and Features: Student workbook

Evidence-based/informed: No

National Standards Alignment: No

Consistent with Healthy Youth Act? Yes (with significant modifications)

Consistent with AIDS Omnibus Act? No

Bias Free Materials: No

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

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comprehensive Sexual Health | <input type="checkbox"/> HIV Prevention                 |
| <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 type="checkbox"/> Other                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contraception                          |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Healthy relationships                  |   |

## Reviewer Comments:

### *Reviewer 106: Grades 6-8, 9-12*

Materials are over simplified, abstinence focused, and biased towards Christian, heterosexual, cisgender individuals. The sexual health portion is focused on reproduction and makes no effort to address other roles that sexual expression plays in human life. This focus extends to graphics of the human body where the only portions of the female reproduction tract that are labelled are the vagina, cervix, and uterus.

### *Reviewer 107: Grades 6-8*

This curriculum is lacking in resources, and I would not bother using it in my classroom. There are better options available.

### *Reviewer 108: Grades 6-8*

The "teen health - healthy relationships + sexuality" text material was somewhat disconnected from the online resources by Glencoe. The text itself was not adequate for use in classrooms. It fell short on both content and presentation. Even as middle school material it clearly is not at a level our students would appreciate or connect with. It also lacked depth of knowledge and rigor I would expect for materials we would purchase. The online supports were better and clearly presented a wider variety of both depth of content and presentations but still felt incomplete.

### *Reviewer 111: Grades 6-8*

Regarding the presentation of reproductive body parts: The diagram for female genitalia is missing a more complex presentation that should include the vulva, labia (external structures). There is only a side internal view presented. This is not comprehensive enough. On page 11 the definition of abstinence contains a value judgment: "Choosing abstinence for sexual activity before marriage is a positive, healthy decision." There is no place for this type of specific values message in a comprehensive curriculum. There are major components missing from the standards. Especially for 7th and 8th grade standards. There are parts of the curriculum that are met for the 6th grade standards, but not all. There is no information about consent and sexual assault which is an integral part of any comprehensive curriculum that should be presented today. The information about fetal development and pregnancy is vague and limited to only a couple of paragraphs. The same can be said for the STD and HIV information. I would not use this curriculum because it is not comprehensive enough and there are other packages that provide full coverage of standards available.

### *Reviewer 114: Grades 6-8*

The information included is simplified to a point that it leaves a lot of questions middle schoolers may have unanswered. This would leave teachers with having to find supplements to fill the many holes. This curriculum does not meet the majority of Washington Learning Standards for grades 6, 7, or 8.

### *Reviewer 116: Grades 6-8*

Though I agree that this curriculum technically includes information on many or most academic learning standards, it is lacking in substantive content. For key learning concepts, there are few engaging learning exercises and opportunities for actual skill building are limited. There is brief mention of some grade level outcomes and teachers may find it challenging to help students apply health goals because of limited instruction. However, chapters are laid out clearly with easy to read language and there are

visually appealing images throughout. Some important content is unfortunately presented through a gender binary.

*Accuracy Analysis Reviewer 101*

While I really like the layout of this curricula, there are medical and scientific inaccuracies with regard to HIV Prevention and treatment and cure of Hepatitis. Hepatitis C is completely left out, and not much information about needles and how transmission happens through sharing of needles - Just that it "does." I wouldn't recommend this as a full curriculum for HIV/STI education.