



Human Growth and Development Study Exemption

Read the information provided below carefully. Complete and sign this form if you DO NOT want your child to participate in the Human Growth and Development Curriculum at your school. This form must be returned to your child's school ONLY if you do not want your child to participate in the curriculum.

Student #	Student First Name	M.I.	Last Name	Grade
Teacher		School		

The School District of Palm Beach County plans to teach a unit on Human Growth and Development in May. The District will be using the Human Growth and Development unit which was adopted by the School Board of Palm Beach County in 1993, revised in 1996, and updated as needed. As per Florida Statute 1003.42, the unit has been approved by the School Board. Supplemental curricula are used for special student populations.

You are welcome, and encouraged, to review the curriculum and the supporting instructional materials at your child's school or on the District's website at: https://www.palmbeachschools.org/students_parents/reproductive_health_and_disease_education. We recommend that you discuss these materials at home. Your child may bring home assignments to do with an adult in the family. These assignments are optional. They are also confidential; students will not be required to report back what you have discussed. The purpose of these assignments is to give you a chance to communicate with one another about these important topics.

Children need specific and realistic information concerning human growth and development, interpersonal relationships, and pregnancy and disease prevention to better prepare them for adulthood. While the places of worship, school, and other community agencies have a role in supporting the effort of parents/caregivers, it is recognized that the basic responsibility for human growth and development education belongs in the home. The school can present factual information, but parents/caregivers can give these facts their personal, spiritual, and emotional quality.

The District respects your parental rights and your role in presenting information in this sensitive and delicate area. Florida Statute 1003.42, Section 3 says:

Any students whose parent makes written request to the school principal shall be exempted from the teaching of reproductive health or any disease, including HIV/AIDS, its symptoms, development, and treatment. A student so exempted may not be penalized by reason of that exemption.

If you choose not to have your child participate in the Human Growth and Development unit, they will be given an alternate assignment out of the classroom. Materials are available to help facilitate conversations at home with your child about these topics. Contact your child's school to get a copy of the Human Growth and Development parent materials. The parent component includes copies of selected materials created for the classroom.

Signature of Principal

Date

I have read and understand this form concerning the Human Growth and Development Curriculum. I, the parent/legal guardian of the above named child, DO NOT give my consent for my child to participate in the Human Growth and Development curriculum lessons.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian or Student 18 years of age or older

Date

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian or Student 18 years of age or older

Date

Human Growth & Development

Topics Addressed For Elementary Students Only

4th & 5th Grades

- Self-esteem and responsible decision making
- Healthy and unhealthy touching (5th grade)
- Puberty
- Male and female reproductive systems (5th grade)
- HIV/AIDS (how HIV can and can not be contracted)

At each level (elementary and secondary), the main concepts are similar; however, the specific lessons present the information in a manner appropriate to the age level of the student. For example, information on HIV is presented at both the 4th and 5th grade levels. However, the topic is covered in more depth at the 5th grade level.

Human Growth & Development

Topics Addressed For Secondary Students Only

Grade 6

- Self-esteem, responsible decision making, internet safety
- Puberty, personal hygiene, gender stereotypes
- Human reproduction (menstrual cycle and pregnancy)
- Medically accurate information on sexually transmitted diseases HIV; disease prevention, including abstinence as the expected standard and condom use to prevent infection
- Consent

Grade 7

- Self-esteem, responsible decision making, internet safety
- Teen Dating Violence
- Consent; gender stereotypes
- Human reproduction (menstrual cycle, pregnancy, and pre-natal development)
- Medically accurate information on sexually transmitted diseases including HIV; disease prevention, including abstinence as the expected standard; and contraceptive methods such as condoms, sponges, birth control pills, and natural family planning (scientific photographs are used)

Grade 8

- Self-esteem, responsible decision making, internet safety
- Teen Dating Violence
- Consent; gender
- Human reproduction (menstrual cycle, pregnancy, pre-natal development, and stages of childbirth)
- Medically accurate information on sexually transmitted diseases including HIV; disease prevention, including abstinence as the expected standard; and contraceptive methods such as condoms, sponges, birth control pills, and natural family planning (scientific photographs are used)

Grades 9-12

- Internet safety, including "sexting"
- Setting boundaries (Grade 11)
- Teen Dating Violence, sexual harassment
- Consent; gender
- Human reproduction (menstrual cycle, pregnancy, pre-natal development, and stages of childbirth)
- Medically accurate information on sexually transmitted diseases including HIV; disease prevention, including abstinence as the expected standard; and contraceptive methods such as condoms, sponges, birth control pills, and natural family planning (scientific photographs are used)

It is important to note that in grades 6-12, it will be stated that both vaginal and anal intercourse as well as oral sex are all regarded as sexual activity and can put individuals at risk for sexually transmitted diseases.

At each level (elementary and secondary), the main concepts are similar; however, the specific lessons present the information in a manner appropriate to the age level of the student. For example, information on Teen Dating Violence is presented in grades 7-12. However, the topic is covered in more depth as grade level increases.