

SEXTING: Empowering Students to Engage in Positive Communication

Secondary Lesson 3

Lesson Title: Safe Sexting, No Such Thing

Description: This lesson will review the dangers of sexting and its consequences.

Objectives: The students will be able to:

- Learn the differences between texting and sexting
- Learn the consequence of texting especially when it is sexually explicit text and/or photographs
- Discuss situations where bullying or harassment could occur after “sexting”
- Discuss text involving sexual connotation and analyze effective/non-effective ways of handling such behaviors
- Understand the long-term consequences of being caught with sexual content
- Identify persons in their school (e.g. teacher, school social worker, counselor) or community (e.g. police officer, community leader) whom they can contact for help with issues, concerns, and problems

Standards-Based Student Development Program Benchmark(s):

Benchmark PS 1.1

Understand the difference between acceptable and unacceptable behavior.

Benchmark PS 1.2

Understand the consequences of personal behavior.

Benchmark PS 1.4

Identify situations in which peer pressure might affect adherence to or violation of acceptable social norms.

Springboard Activity: Using a poster board and markers, brainstorm the following question: Is there “Safe Sexting”? Assist students to understand the myth that sexting could be safe. Record student responses.

FCAT Benchmarks:

- LA.A.2.4.1 Determines main idea and significant details
- LA.E.2.4.8 Draws conclusions
- LA.A.2.4.7 Analyzes the validity and reliability of primary source information
- LA.A.2.4.8 Synthesizes information from multiple sources

Accommodations: Teachers of students with disabilities are mandated by state and federal law to provide accommodations as stated on the students’ IEP. General accommodations and best practices are listed in the introduction.

Instructional Time: One class period

Instructional Materials

- **Handout 3.1: KWL on Sexting**
- **Handout 3.2: Cases and Consequences**
- **Handout 3.3: Who Can Help?**

Instructional Lesson:

1. Ask students, what are the dangers of “sexting” (if any)?
2. Direct students to complete the first column of the **Handout 3.1 KWL on Sexting**.
3. Discuss with the students why some students argue that there is nothing wrong with sexting.
4. Distribute **Handout 3.1: Cases and Consequences**.
5. Discuss the consequences briefly, please remember teachers and counselors are not legal advisors and the law could change at any time, you do not want to become liable.
6. Ask students to complete column two of the **Handout 3.1 KWL on Sexting**.
7. Distribute **Handout 3.2: Who Can Help?** Explain that teachers and parents are aware that there are challenges ahead and that people are available to help each student. Allow students time to complete the activity and review.

Assessment: Classroom participation.

Follow-up Activities/Home Learning/Parent: Students will discuss with their parents the legal consequences related to Sexting. Students must complete the last column of the KWL and discuss what they learned with their parents.

Handout 3.1: KWL on Sexting

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

SEXTING

What do you KNOW?	What do you WANT to know?	What did you LEARN?

Handout 3.2: Cases and Consequences

Research/Data:

- **29% of 5th grade students (10-11 year olds) have cell phone**
- **22% of teenage girls have sent nude pictures of themselves**
- **18% of teenage boys have sent nude pictures of themselves**
- **56% of teens and young adults have received nude pictures**
- **66% of girls who engage in sexting, say they do so to be “fun” or flirtatious.**

Cosmo Girl Survey, October 2008

Cases:

- **Texas-** a 15 year old boy was charged with child pornography for receiving nude photos
- **Utah-** 16 year old boy charged with a felony for sending a nude photo of himself to female classmates
- **Wisconsin-** teen was charged with child pornography for posting nude photos of a 16 year old girl on his MySpace account
- **Ohio-** a senior high school student committed suicide after learning that a nude picture of herself that she sent to her boyfriend had been distributed at four local senior high schools.

Consequences:

- Images are posted forever
- Images may be distributed everywhere and used for different reasons
- Images may limit ability to get a job, join the military, or get into college
- Images may destroy current and future relationships
- Sexting behavior leads to other risk behaviors
- Images open the door for other sexual crimes

Handout 3.3: WHO CAN HELP?

Name: _____ **Date:** _____ **Period:**_____

Think about all of the people who work in a school, live in your community, who could you ask to assist you or provide you with information if you are involved in a situation related to sexting? In the space provided below, identify who you think can help at each location.

1. You are at school. _____
2. You are home alone. _____
3. You are at church. _____
4. You are at a summer camp. _____
5. You are at a game. _____
6. You want information on consequences related to “sexting.”

7. Add your own list of people who can help, and why?

8. How can you help a friend deal with being a victim of sexting?

