

## *SEXTING: Empowering Students to Engage in Positive Communication*

### **Secondary Lesson 7**

#### **Lesson Title: Texting and Communicating Safely with Friends**

**Description:** This lesson will empower students to communicate via text and develop strategies that will build confidence as they confront new people and situations.

**Objectives:** The students will be able to:

- Learn the advantages of texting
- 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

#### **Standards-Based Student Development Program Benchmark(s):**

##### **Benchmark PS 4.1**

Develop effective personal communication skills

##### **Benchmark PS 1.2**

Describe the consequences of personal behavior.

##### **Benchmark PS 2.1**

Demonstrate the use of effective problem-solving model.

##### **Benchmark PS 3.0**

Students understand the importance of developing a positive self-concept.

**Springboard Activity:** Using a poster board and markers, brainstorm the meaning of the word “sexting”. Record student responses.

#### **FCAT Benchmarks:**

LA.A.2.2.7 Compares and contrasts

LA.E.2.2.1 Describes cause and effect relationships

**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 period

## Instructional Materials

- Poster board, markers, or smartboard, dryerase board/markers or overhead/acetate to record responses.
- **Handout 7.1: Strategies to Overcome Being a Victim of Sexting**
- **Handout 7.2: A Story On Sexting.**

## Instructional Lesson:

1. Review the springboard responses that students have shared. Explain to students that the lesson today is about addressing texting and especially “sexting”.
2. Circle the responses that relate to sexting and ask students to raise their hands if they understand the consequences of sending explicit pictures or messages over the internet.
3. Ask and discuss: Have you observed sexting in school? On the other hand, do you fear that you might be a victim of sexting?
4. Distribute **Handout 7.1: Strategies to Overcome Being a Victim of Sexting**
5. Have students complete the **Handout 7.1: Strategies to Overcome Being a Victim of Sexting**. **NOTE:** Please read a few of the positive strategies to diffuse sexting and deal with the consequences once it happens.
6. Ask for volunteers to share their answers with the class. This will usually generate much discussion and reveal many ideas and opinions about proper ways of dealing with such situations.
7. Discuss the importance of taking charge of our own behaviors and the consequences of our behaviors.
8. Place students in groups of 2-3 students. Instruct the students to write a creative short story about someone who had a negative consequence after Sexting. The characters in the story must have names. Allow 20-30 minutes to complete the writing assignment. Distribute the **Handout 7.2: A Story On Sexting**.
9. Ask volunteers to share their stories. Make sure that each student states his/her promise out loud. Review the strategies students incorporated into their stories.
10. Review the concepts of personal responsibility, adequate behaviors, and consequences.

**Assessment:** Students will write a short story.

**Follow-up Activities/Home Learning/Parent:** In order to understand the dangers of “sexting” the students will discuss with their parents the issue of sexting.

## Handout 7.1: Strategies to Overcome Being a Victim of Sexting?

How would you react if your ex-boyfriend or girlfriend posted a picture of you on the internet? In the picture, you are wearing a provocative outfit. Read each idea and decide if you think this is something you might do. Check "Yes" if you would, "No" if you wouldn't, or "Not sure."

| When you become a victim of sexting, you should...   | Yes | No | Not Sure |
|--|-----|----|----------|
| <b>1</b> Cry   |     |    |          |
| <b>2</b> Tell a friend   |     |    |          |
| <b>3</b> Tell your ex-boyfriend's/ex-girlfriend's parents  |     |    |          |
| <b>4</b> Run away from home  |     |    |          |
| <b>5</b> Try to get even with your ex-boyfriend/ex-girlfriend  |     |    |          |
| <b>6</b> Tell a teacher  |     |    |          |
| <b>7</b> Stay home from school   |     |    |          |
| <b>8</b> Hit, push, or kick your ex-boyfriend/ex-girlfriend  |     |    |          |
| <b>9</b> Stand up straight, look at him/her in the eye, and say in a firm, confident voice, "There are legal actions for doing what you did."      |     |    |          |
| <b>10</b> Hunch over, hang your head, and try to look so small so no one will notice you.  |     |    |          |
| <b>11</b> Laugh and act like you just don't care   |     |    |          |
| <b>12</b> Stand up straight, look at your ex-boyfriend/ex-girlfriend and tell him with a firm and strong voice, "I am going to tell your parents." |     |    |          |
| <b>13</b> Tell your parents  |     |    |          |
| <b>14</b> Threaten the ex-boyfriend  |     |    |          |
| <b>15</b> Stay calm and walk away  |     |    |          |
| <b>16</b> Call him a bad name  |     |    |          |
| <b>17</b> Shout, "Cut it out!" as loudly as you can  |     |    |          |
| <b>18</b> Ignore the ex-boyfriend  |     |    |          |
| <b>19</b> Tell a joke or say something silly   |     |    |          |
| <b>20</b> If other people are nearby, join them so you're not alone  |     |    |          |

## Answers to Strategies to Overcome Being a Victim of Sexting

### You Should:

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1. Cry  | Best answer: NO       |
| 2. Tell friend  | Best answer: YES      |
| 3. Tell your ex-boyfriend's/ex-girlfriend's parents   | Best answer: NO       |
| 4. Run Away from home   | Best answer: NO       |
| 5. Try to get even with your ex-boyfriend/ex-girlfriend   | Best answer: NO       |
| 6. Tell a teacher   | Best answer: YES      |
| 7. Stay home from school  | Best answer: NO       |
| 8. Hit, push, or kick your ex-boyfriend/ex-girlfriend   | Best answer: NO       |
| 9. Stand up straight, look at him in the eye, and say in a firm, confident voice, There are legal actions for doing what you did. | Best answer: YES      |
| 10. Hunch over, hang your head, and try to look so small the bully will stop noticing you.  | Best answer: NO       |
| 11. Laugh and act like you just don't care.   | Best answer: NOT SURE |
| 11. Stand up straight, look at your ex-boyfriend and tell him with a firm and strong voice, "I am going to tell your parents."    | Best answer: YES      |
| 13. Tell your parents.  | Best answer: YES      |
| 14. Threaten the ex-boyfriend   | Best answer: NO       |
| 15. Stay calm and walk away.  | Best answer: YES      |
| 16. Call him a bad name.  | Best answer: NO       |
| 17. Shout, "Cut it out!" as loudly as you can.  | Best answer: NO       |
| 18. Ignore the ex-boyfriend   | Best answer: NO       |
| 19. Tell a joke or say something silly.   | Best answer: NOT SURE |
| 20. If other people are nearby, join them so you're not alone.  | Best answer: YES      |

## Handout 7.2: A Story On Sexting

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** In your group, create a short story about someone who had a negative consequence after sexting. The characters in the story must have names (fictional). Remember that all stories have a beginning, middle, and an end. After you have discussed your ideas, use this form to write your story.

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A large rectangular frame containing 20 horizontal lines for writing.

The End!