

6th Grade Health

EQ: What does attraction and sexual orientation mean?

CW: Workshop 6: Feelings and Attractions

HW: No HW

Agenda

1. Class Agreements
2. Sexual Orientation Overview
3. What to do?
4. Intimacy

Class Agreements

1. One person talks at a time, everyone else listens - Be careful with side talk
2. No one must talk about themselves. You can always choose to pass. You may still be called on if the question is not personal.
3. No "put downs", making fun of others or being sarcastic
4. What happens here, stays here (No Gossip - always encouraged to talk with family about class)
5. Try not to laugh, even if it's hard
6. No rude comments (Ex. That's gross)

Feelings and Attractions

Lesson 6 6th grade OWL

Objectives

Understand the concept of attraction.

Understand the concept of sexual orientation.

Learn some terms about sexual orientation.

Think about what to do in situations involving attraction.

Think about intimacy.

Attraction

Attraction-a feeling of strong liking, interest, or desire.

Sexual Orientation

Sexual Orientation-The romantic or sexual attraction toward people of a particular sex or gender or to people of more than one sex or gender.

An individual may be attracted to people of the same sex, another sex, or more than one sex, and some people do not feel sexually attracted to anyone.

Sexual orientation is different than gender identity.

Who we are attracted to differs from who we are as a gendered person.

What words do you know that refer to a person's sexual orientation?



Collaborate!

What words do you know that refer to a person's sexual

Gay: A term for someone who is attracted to people of the same sex or gender; sometimes used to mean a man who is attracted to men.

Homosexual: A term for someone who is attracted to people of the same sex or gender. This term is no longer widely used.

Lesbian: A term for a woman who is attracted to women.

Bisexual: A term for someone who is attracted to people of more than one sex or gender.

Straight: A term for someone who is attracted to people of another sex or gender.

Heterosexual: A term for someone who is attracted to people of another sex or gender.

Asexual: A term for someone who is not sexually attracted to other people.

Queer: A term for someone who feels that they do not fit cultural norms for sexual orientation or gender identity. The word has sometimes been used in a derogatory manner, causing some people to be uncomfortable with its use. However, the word has been reclaimed and many use it with pride.

Homophobia: Fear and hatred of people who are gay, lesbian, or bisexual.

Heterosexism: The assumption that everyone is or should be heterosexual.

Intimacy: A feeling of emotional closeness with someone else.

We don't know exactly how a person's sexual orientation develops. Some people believe that your sexual orientation is determined before you are born, although you may not know it until you are older.

Others believe it develops as you grow up.

It doesn't really matter how we get to be who we are. **What is important to know is that our sexual orientation is just one part of who we are and it is not a choice.**

People often have questions about their sexual orientation as they go through puberty and their teenage years. A person's sexual orientation may take time to develop fully, and someone may not know their orientation until they get older.

How do people know if they are lesbian, gay, bisexual or straight?

Is it possible to tell what orientation someone else is by looking at them?

Sexual orientation is not necessarily expressed by the way people act, dress, or speak.

The only way to know someone's sexual orientation for sure is if they tell you.

It's important for each person to decide whether they will share their sexual orientation with others.

It's not ok to discuss someone else's sexual orientation with others without permission.

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Young people develop at very different rates.

Some people will start thinking about their own sexual orientation and will start being attracted to others over the next several years.

Some may already have crushes on other people.

Let's consider some different scenarios and decide what the character in each scenario should do:

“Do Nothing” “Talk to a friend” “Talk to a parent/caregiver” “Talk to an adult”

“Reflect/Journal” “Find out more information”

What to do?

Juhary does not think he will ever be attracted to a girl or woman. What should Juhary do?

What to do?

Ronnel and Skylar have been best friends since kindergarten, and now Skylar has a crush on Ronnel. Ronnel doesn't have romantic feelings for Skylar. What should Ronnel do?

What to do?

Patrick gets picked on a lot by other kids who call him gay. What should Patrick do?

What to do?

Aaliyah is really excited that Sam has a crush on her! What should Aaliyah do?

What to do?

Carlos isn't sure if he likes girls or boys.
What should Carlos do?

What to do?

Nora cannot imagine herself ever being in a sexual relationship with someone else? What should Nora do?

What to do?

Keiko is very frustrated that everyone thinks she likes boys, because Keiko is a lesbian. What should Keiko do?

What was it like to have to choose a section for each scenario?

How might it be tough to think about attraction?

What might be easy about attraction?

Scenario C (Patrick) is about homophobia.

Scenario G (Keiko) is about heterosexism

Intimacy

Attraction is only one part of a sexual relationship.

Think back to the Circles of Sexuality.

Intimacy-the feeling of emotional closeness with someone else.

Intimacy is the basis for healthy interactions among family members, close friends, and people in romantic and sexual relationships.

Having intimate relationships is important for overall happiness and health.

When people are asked “what makes you happy?” a common answer is “feeling closely connected to family and friends”

How do you know if you are involved in an intimate relationship?

Intimacy quotes

Intimacy creates understanding...and understanding creates love.

-Anais Nin

Intimacy is the capacity to be rather weird with someone-and finding that that's okay with them.

-Alain de Botton

intimacy can be about holding someone's hand. It could be about stroking their hair.

-Hill Harper

Intimacy is something to be cherished, and intimacy is not something to be afraid of.

-Ira Sachs

Reading for next class:

Part 1: What is Sex?, Section 2, Making Babies (pgs. 3-4)

Part 4: Families and Babies, Section 18, Instructions from Mom and Dad (pgs. 48-49)

Section 20, Before Birth (pgs. 54-57)

Section 21, What a trip! (pgs. 58-61)

Staying Healthy, Section 28, Scientists working day and night (pgs. 86-90)

Anonymous Question Form

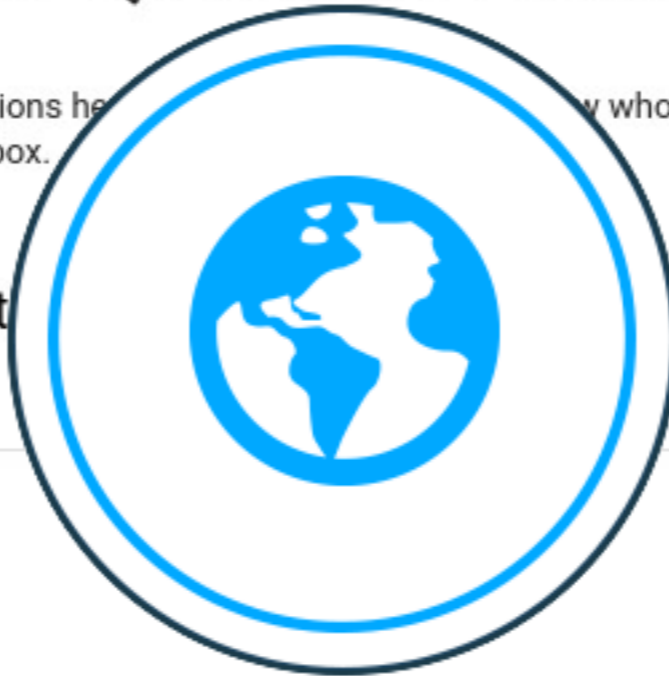
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