

Being a Sex Ed Sleuth

Advocates for Youth; A Lesson Plan from Rights, Respect, Responsibility

Lesson 7

OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

A K-12 Curriculum fostering responsibility by respecting young people's rights to honest sexuality education.

EDUCATION STANDARDS: NSES ALIGNMENT: By the end of 8th grade, students will be able to:

1. AP.8.AI.1 – Identify accurate and credible sources of information about sexual health.
2. PR.8.AI.3 – Identify medically accurate sources of pregnancy related information and support including pregnancy options, safe surrender policies and prenatal care.
3. PR.8.AI.1 – Identify medically accurate resources about pregnancy prevention and reproductive health care.
4. SH.8.AI.1 – Identify medically accurate information about STDs, including HIV.

OBJECTIVES

1. Name at least two characteristics of accurate, reliable websites on sexuality and sexual health. [Knowledge]
2. Demonstrate an understanding of how to determine whether a website is medically accurate, age-appropriate and youth positive. [Knowledge, Skill]

MATERIALS NEEDED

1. Chromebooks Cart

2. Laptop or desktop computer with PowerPoint on it
3. PowerPoint presentation titled, “Sex Ed Sleuth”
4. LCD projector and screen
5. Internet access
6. Copies of four Sex Ed Sleuth assignments, each stapled together, one per group of four (or three)
7. Handout: Sexual Health Information Websites – one per student
8. Exit Tickets (One sheet copied per every 4 students; approximately 8 sheets.)

VERIFICATION

Steps to check for student understanding

1. Assessment of both learning objectives can be done during the small group report-backs.
2. Students will also be asked to hand in their worksheets for additional assessment.
3. Through use of exit ticket tasks.

ACTIVITY

STEP 1: Ask the class, *“How many of you have ever gone online to get an answer to a question you had?”* After students have raised their hands, ask, *“Do any of you have sites you go to for your questions, or do you just search for your question and see what comes up in the results?”* After a few people have responded, ask, *“Whether you go directly to a site, or you just search on your question, how do you determine whether the search results are good ones? There is a lot of misinformation on the internet – and if you rely on sites like YouTube or any of the other sites where people vote on whether they think an answer was good or not, you’re not necessarily going to get reliable information. Even though Wikipedia has improved, it, too, is not always the most reliable resource. What we’re going to do today is talk about how you do find reliable online sources for sexuality-related information – and how you can determine how some sources aren’t particularly interested in getting you the information you need!”* (5 minutes)

STEP 2: Start the PowerPoint, “Sex Ed Sleuth.” **Ask whether students know what a sleuth is, and if they do not, explain that it is like a detective – someone who looks for clues and information to answer a question or solve a problem.**

Read through the first three slides. At Slide 4, say to the students, *“What if I wanted to know how effective condoms are? I would likely just Google that question. When I did it, here’s what came up.”* **Go to slide 5, which is a screen shot of the search results.** Say, *“So I have over a million results to choose from, and these are the top ones. So which one should I look at?”*

Go to slide 6, where a few things have been highlighted and go through each, saying:

*“So, when I read ‘It’s Your Sex Life,’ it makes me feel like that organization wants me to take responsibility for and care of myself. I’d kind of like that as a teen, I think it’d make me feel really capable and mature. What also stands out even before I click on the link is that it refers to the CDC. **The CDC is the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and it’s the leading national public health organization in the U.S.** It’s also a part of the U.S. government. I know this because the ending – the part that comes after ‘CDC’ is ‘.gov.’ So if I see the CDC mentioned, I know they’ve done their homework and that the information is accurate.*

Then I look at ‘WebMD’ and I’m not sure until I’ve done more research. Having ‘MD’ in the title of this resource, which is usually very reliable, might make you think it’s a doctor who wrote everything, but it’s not – it’s independent writers who interview various professionals, check their facts and then put that information on the site. So you’d want to do a bit more sleuthing before deciding it was reliable.

Finally, there’s ‘Kids Health.’ What do you think? If I were your age, part of me would say immediately, ‘oh, that’s for me,’ but we won’t know without more information. So why don’t we check that one out and see what’s what?” (5 minutes)

Go the slide 7, which is a screenshot of the Kids Health site mentioned in the search results. Ask the students what stands out to them that would make them think this is a reliable site, and what makes them feel like they’d need more information.

After hearing their responses, **go to slide 8** and go through the highlighted portions, saying: *“I highlighted ‘from Nemours’ at the top left – does anyone know what they are? Okay, so first, we’d need to find out who they are and whether they have a bias or whether we think they know what they’re talking about. The second thing that stood out for me was this part that reads, ‘Expert Answer.’ Again, according to whom? I could say right now, ‘I’m an expert on American history.’ But just saying that doesn’t necessarily make it true – you’d need to find out what makes me an expert. So I’d want to know who is answering the questions, and what makes them an expert instead of just some person who is Googling the answers from another website.*

Finally, what stands out to me is this statement, ‘If you and your partner are having sex...’ This implies to me that it’s a health-related site that’s based in what’s going on in the real world. It acknowledges that many people won’t be having sex – and we all know that the only 100% effective way of avoiding STDs and/or pregnancy is by not having sex with someone. But it also seems to acknowledge that most people will have some kind of a sex at some point – and so when they do, using a condom is really effective.”

Go to the 9th slide and say, *“By the way, I clicked on the statement, ‘by Nemours,’ and found that it’s a children’s healthcare system, with no religious affiliation and a lot of health-related expertise. So I determined this was a reliable website that I might go back to with other questions I had about sexuality.”* (5 minutes)

STEP 3: Tell the students they are now going to do the same thing for themselves. Explain that you are

going to divide them into groups of 4 and give them a packet that comes from a particular website. Explain that each packet will have a cover sheet with questions on it that they need to go through and answer. At the end, they will need to decide whether this is a reliable website for having that question answered, based on what they see there. Ask if there are any questions, break them into their groups, and distribute the assignments. Tell them they will have 15 minutes in which to do this work. Walk around as they work, providing support as needed. (15 minutes)

Note to the Teacher: Depending on the number of students in your class, you may wish to have them break into triads instead. If you have enough computers, you may wish to do this online; however, using the printouts provided ensures you will be able to do the activity if there are any issues with internet access, and also gives a bit more control over the process so that students will not be tempted to go to different parts of each site rather than complete the activity.

STEP 4: Ask each group to report back on their websites. Since there will be duplication with some of the sites, ask any groups that follow to please not repeat what has already been said, but instead to share whatever they may feel differently about, or found in addition to what the other group found. As each group goes, project their websites on the screen. (17 minutes)

STEP 5: Congratulate the students on doing a good job. Explain that you are going to distribute a list of websites that are reliable and medically accurate, and ask them to visit one of them with a parent or caregiver. (3 minutes)

Sex Ed Sleuth Assignment A: “Sex, Etc.”

www.sexetc.org

Group Member Names:

1. You need to find information about STDs. Does this site seem to have reliable/accurate information? What do you base that on?

2. Who’s behind the website? Look at the “about us” link. Does that make the site more or less

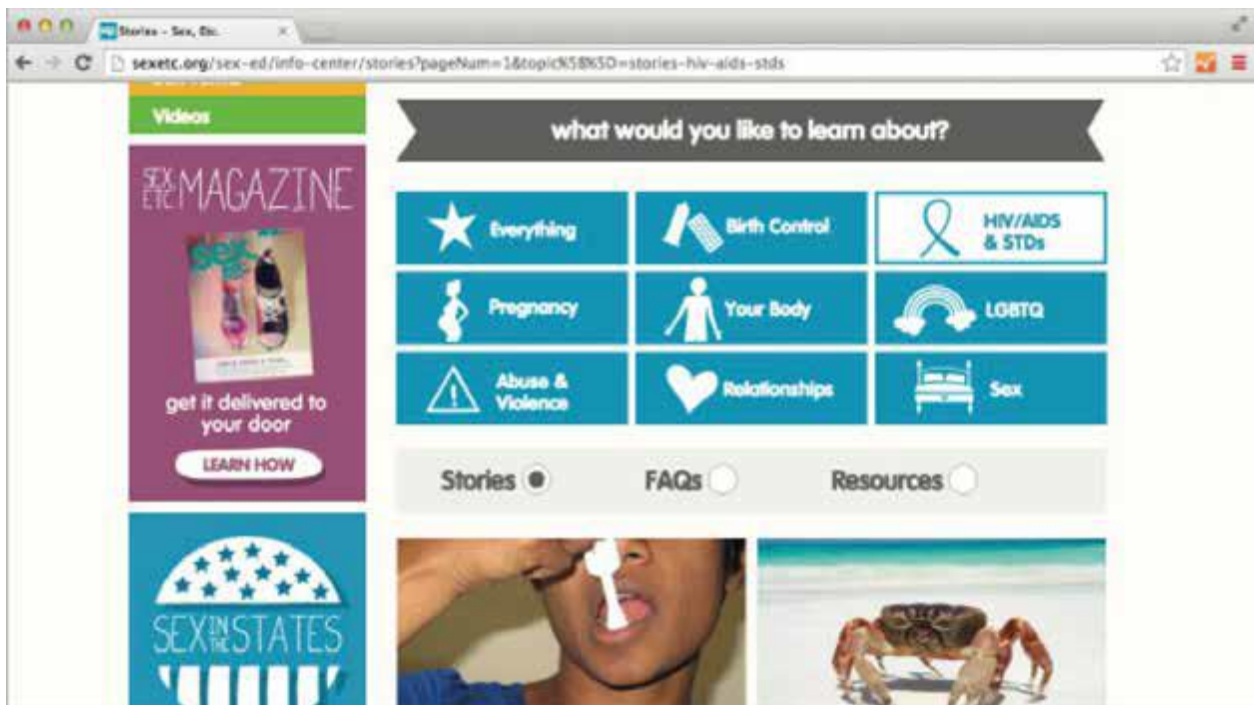
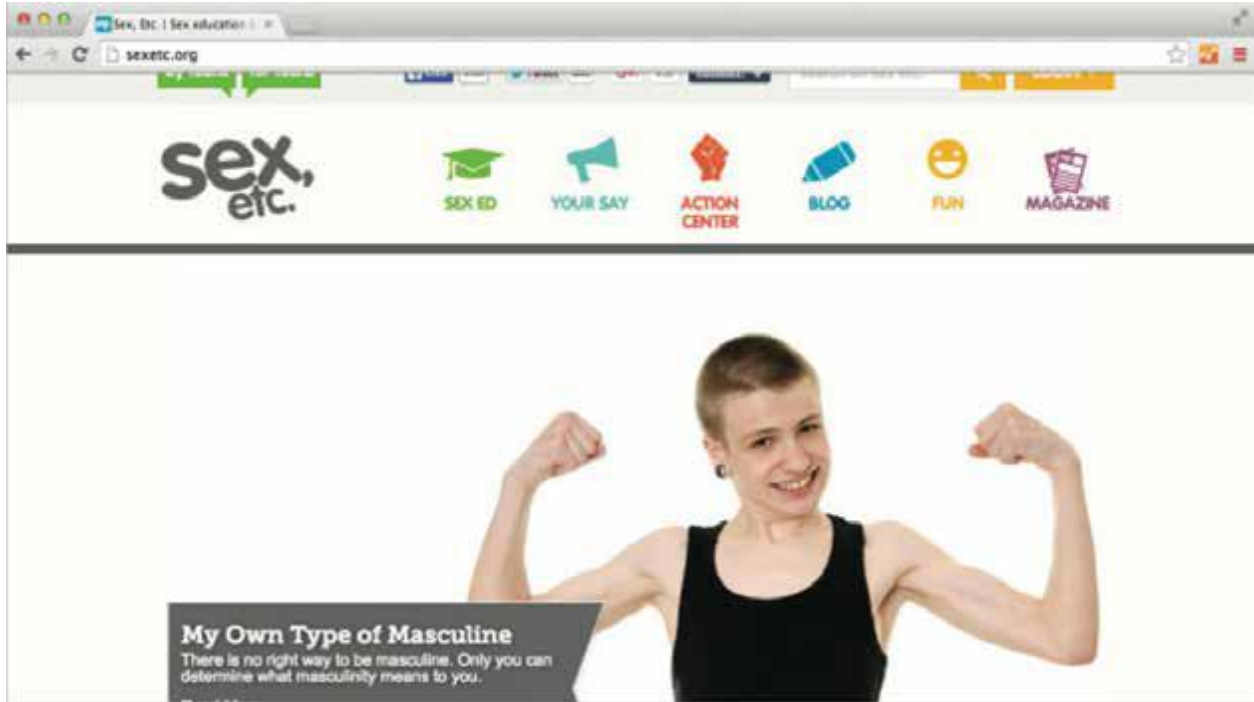
reliable? Why?

3. Is the website content up to date? How do you know?

4. Is this a site you'd visit to get more information about sexuality and sexual health? Why or why not?

Sex Ed Sleuth Assignment A: "Sex, Etc."

www.sexetc.org



sexetc.org/sex-ed/info-center/facs

what would you like to learn about?

Everything	Birth Control	HIV/AIDS & STDs
Pregnancy	Your Body	LGBTQ
Abuse & Violence	Relationships	Sex

Stories FAQs Resources

After becoming pregnant how long is too long to wait before you have an abortion? Is it possible to get an abortion after the first trimester?

All my partner wants is sex, and I consider myself a little too young. How can I tell him or her that I don't want to have sex without embarrassing my partner or hurting the

sexetc.org/about

About Sex, Etc.



Sex, Etc. is on a mission to improve teen sexual health across the country! Each year, five million young people visit Sexetc.org, and over 45,000 read our [magazine](#) to get honest and accurate sexual health information. We've helped teens with answers to their question about sex, relationships, pregnancy, STDs, birth control, sexual orientation and more!

Sexetc.org has comprehensive sex ed information including:

- Articles written by teen staff writers and national contributors

Sex Ed Sleuth Assignment B: It's Great to Wait

www.greattowait.com

Group Member Names:

1. You need to find information about preventing pregnancy. Does this site seem to have reliable/accurate information? What do you base that on?
2. Who's behind the website? Look at the "Program Information" link. Does that make the site more or less reliable? Why?
3. Is the website content up to date? How do you know?
4. Is this a site you'd visit to get more information about sexuality and sexual health? Why or why not?

Sex Ed Sleuth Assignment B: "It's Great to Wait"

Welcome! Bet you thought you were the only one, right? Well, you're not. Thousands of teens just like you are making the smart choice - sexual abstinence until marriage - and coming to this site every day. Take a few minutes to check it out and you'll agree, sexual abstinence until marriage.. "It's Great to Wait!"

Pregnancy

Since the year 2000, over 100,000 teenagers in Florida between the ages of 15 and 19 have become pregnant.(1) Two out of three teenage mothers live in poverty.(2) They spend their days struggling to balance their lives, while taking care of their baby. The surest way to have time to do all the things you enjoy and to avoid pregnancy is to not have sex.

Are You Ready to be a Parent?

Being a parent changes everything. You have another living, breathing person to worry about who depends upon you. You have to feed, change, dress and take care of this baby 24/7. Add in school, maybe a job, and you have no time for the things you want to do or used to do.

Babies cost a lot of money. You'll have to provide food, housing, clothing, diapers, doctor visits, medicine, baby furniture and daycare. The baby of a teenager is more likely to have health problems. If the other parent is raising your child, you could pay a child support payment every month for 18 years.

What about Birth Control?


Stats | It's Great to Wait

www.greattowait.com/stats.html

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

en español

UPDATING Extras & Activities



it's Great to Wait

← BACK TO HOME

GET THE FACTS

IT'S RELATIONSHIPS

IT'S YOUR CHOICE

SPRINGING OUT FROM PEER PRESSURE IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU NECESSARY VIRGINITY

HELP FOR YOU

HOW TO SAY NO

Stats

- During the year 2007, Florida teenagers between the age of 15-19 accounted for 23,602 cases of sexually transmitted disease.

Florida Department of Health's Bureau of Sexually Transmitted Diseases

- During the year 2007, teenagers accounted for over one third of all sexually transmitted disease cases in the state of Florida.

Florida Department of Health's Bureau of Sexually Transmitted Diseases

- One in four sexually active female teenagers in Florida acquires a sexually transmitted disease.

Florida Department of Health's Bureau of Sexually Transmitted Diseases

- In 2007, Chlamydia cases increased by over 5000.

Florida Department of Health's Bureau of Sexually Transmitted Diseases

- In 2007 data displayed that, 14,869 teenagers in Florida between the ages 15 and 19

FUN STUFF

Photo Gallery

It's Great to Wait - Sexual

www.greattowait.com/contact.html

HELP FOR PARENTS AND EDUCATORS

WELCOME PARENTS TALK TO YOUR KID HELP YOUR TEEN DEVELOP EFFUAL SKILLS FOR EDUCATORS AND OTHER PROFESSIONALS

PROGRAM INFORMATION NETWORK

Optional information

Full Name

Your Organization (if applicable)

Your Title (if applicable)

Address

City

State

Zip code

Your email address

Confirm email address

Would you like to be added to our mailing list?
 Yes No

We appreciate your e-mail concerning your comments, questions or suggestions about sexual abstinence until marriage. Please note however, that this is not a confidential medium. Any e-mail responses received from or sent to our readers are not guaranteed to be private because of public records laws as well as the nature of electronic media and access to e-mail accounts.

Medicine companies in UK

Sex Ed Sleuth Assignment C: “Planned Parenthood”

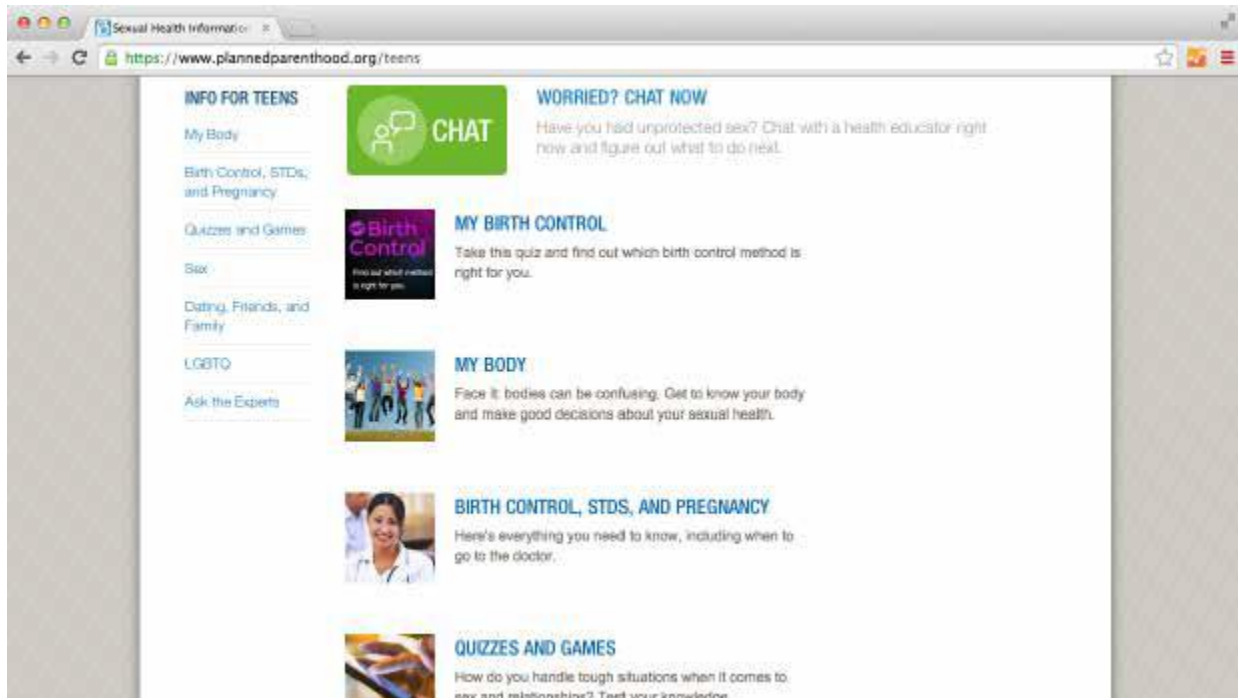
www.plannedparenthood.org/learn/birth-control

Group Member Names:

1. You need to find information about preventing pregnancy. Does this site seem to have reliable/accurate information? What do you base that on?
2. Who’s behind the website? Look at the “about us” link. Does that make the site more or less reliable? Why?
3. Is the website content up to date? How do you know?
4. Is this a site you’d visit to get more information about sexuality and sexual health? Why or why not?

Sex Ed Sleuth Assignment C: "Planned Parenthood"

www.plannedparenthood.org/learn/birth-control



Birth Control info For Te...
<https://www.plannedparenthood.org/teens/going-to-the-doctor/birth-control>

INFO FOR TEENS

My Body

Birth Control, STDs, and Pregnancy

- Going to the Doctor
- Birth Control
- STDs
- Pregnancy Testing
- I'm Pregnant... Now What?

Quizzes and Games

Sex

Dating, Friends, and Family

LGBTQ

Ask the Experts

Birth control at a glance:

- Birth control is a safe way to prevent pregnancy.
- Most kinds of birth control don't protect you from STDs, so also use a condom every time you have sex.
- You can go to your local Planned Parenthood health center for help figuring out which kind of birth control is right for you.

EXPAND ALL +

- **How does birth control work?**
- **What's the best birth control?**
- **How do I get on birth control?**
- **What are the benefits of birth control?**
- **Does birth control make you gain weight or make you infertile?**
- **Is there birth control I can take after unprotected sex?**
- **Will my parents find out if I get birth control?**

Who We Are
<https://www.plannedparenthood.org/about-us/who-we-are>

ABOUT US

Who We Are

- Mission
- Planned Parenthood at a Glance
- History & Successes

Our Leadership

Local & State Offices

Planned Parenthood Global

Newsroom


Advisory Boards & Initiatives

Jobs & Volunteering

Annual Report

About This Site

Contact Us



ISSUE

We are a trusted health care provider, an informed educator, a passionate advocate, and a global partner helping similar organizations around the world. Planned Parenthood delivers vital reproductive health care, sex education, and information to millions of women, men, and young people worldwide.

For nearly 100 years, Planned Parenthood has promoted a commonsense approach to women's health and well-being, based on respect for each individual's right to make informed, independent decisions about health, sex, and family planning.

Providing Trusted Community Health Care

Planned Parenthood is America's most trusted provider of reproductive health care. Our skilled health care professionals are dedicated to offering men, women, and teens high-quality, affordable medical care. One in five American women has chosen Planned Parenthood for health care at least once in her life.

The heart of Planned Parenthood is in the local community. Our 59 unique, locally governed affiliates nationwide operate approximately 700 health

Sex Ed Sleuth Assignment D: “St. Louis Thrive”

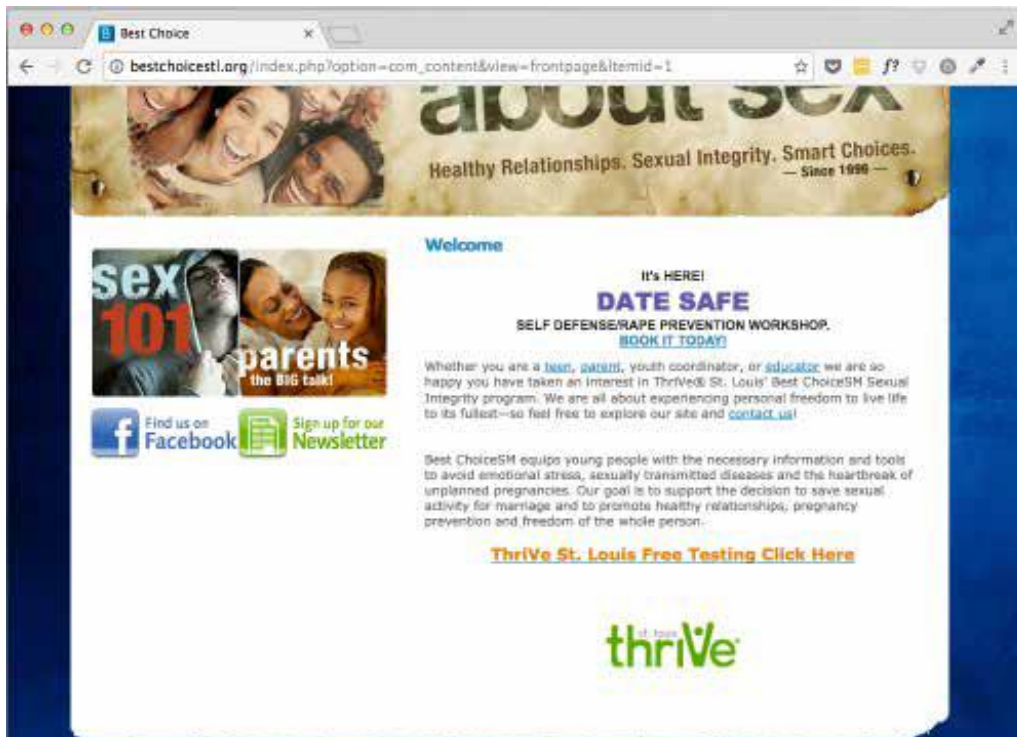
www.bestchoicestl.org

Group Member Names:

1. You need to find information about preventing pregnancy. Does this site seem to have reliable/accurate information? What do you base that on?
2. Who’s behind the website? Look at the “about us” link. Does that make the site more or less reliable? Why?
3. Is the website content up to date? How do you know?
4. Is this a site you’d visit to get more information about sexuality and sexual health? Why or why not?

Sex Ed Sleuth Assignment D: "St. Louis THRIVE"

www.bestchoicestl.org



st. louis
thrive Operating Best Choice™
Changing the conversation about sex

HOME ABOUT YOUTH TEACHERS PARENTS CALENDAR CONTACT GET TESTED DATE SAFE

About Best Choice

Sexual integrity is expressing the gift of sexuality throughout life in a true, excellent, honest and healthy way. It is protection in childhood, direction in adolescence and celebration in adulthood.

Thrive®'s Best ChoiceSM Sexual Integrity Program explores the **Five Components of the Whole Person**:

**Social Physical
Intellectual
Spiritual Emotional**

This fast-paced, fun, edgy and interactive program is designed to help young people ages 12-18 understand that sex is more than a physical act and to empower them to make the best and healthiest choices. Best ChoiceSM presentations may be tailored to specific audiences.

Best ChoiceSM Operating **thrive**

Did you know...

The city of St. Louis has dropped to #2 in the nation for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea. "Health Department officials attributed the improvements to a partnership formed with community groups to increase testing and education" (The St. Louis American, 2009).

Did you know...

Across the nation 45 million individuals over the age of 12 have contracted genital herpes. [View source](#)

st. louis
thrive Operating Best Choice™
Changing the conversation about sex

HOME ABOUT YOUTH TEACHERS PARENTS CALENDAR CONTACT GET TESTED DATE SAFE

About Best Choice

This fast-paced, fun, edgy and interactive program is designed to help young people ages 12-18 understand that sex is more than a physical act and to empower them to make the best and healthiest choices. Best ChoiceSM presentations may be tailored to specific audiences.

Topics may include:

- Sexual integrity
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- Brain function
- Media influence
- Premarital and marital sex
- Myth of 'safe' sex
- Building healthy relationships
- and more!

For over 13 years Best ChoiceSM has been available free of charge across the entire St. Louis region reaching over 40 schools in St. Charles County, Jefferson County, St. Louis County and St. Louis City. We reach public and private high schools, middle schools, youth groups, churches and other venues.

Highlights of the Best ChoiceSM Program include:

- A classroom curriculum that is Title V, A-H compliant. All aspects of this program are in complete alignment with the themes and requirements of the CBAE program.
- A teen parenting program with presentations and small group discussions on how to begin now making healthy choices for oneself and the future of one's child.
- One hour parent presentation providing information on how to talk to one's teen about sex. This can be also be structured as a weekly or monthly small group discussion.
- After school WAIT Training clubs that provide youth the opportunity to get together, have fun, and discuss struggles they are facing with regards to relationships, peer pressure, and abstinence.

Across the nation 45 million individuals over the age of 12 have contracted genital herpes. [View source](#)

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