

# Puberty: The Wonder Years

Recent changes in the Michigan laws related to sex education in public schools have required schools to re-examine their sex education programs to make sure they are in compliance. This document is designed to help schools use *Puberty: The Wonder Years* to meet the legal requirements for sex education curriculum as stated in section 380.1507b of the Michigan Compiled Laws. The following chart outlines the curriculum requirements and how to meet them using *Puberty: The Wonder Years* lessons in Tier A for grade 4, Tier B for grade 5, and Tier C for grade 6.

Material and instruction in the sex education curriculum under section 1507 that discusses sex shall be **age-appropriate**, shall **not be medically inaccurate**, and shall do at least all of the following:

Curriculum Requirements	Age Appropriate?*	Where Addressed
(a) Discuss the benefits of abstaining from sex until marriage and the benefits of ceasing sex if a pupil is sexually active.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes (benefits of abstaining): This age group is receptive to abstinence messages and respects limits set by adults.</li> <li>• No (ceasing sex): The vast majority of this age group has not had sex, so instructing them to cease would give them the impression of a false norm. in their group.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Tier A:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson A-2 Activity 2</li> </ul> <p><u>Tier B:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson B-1 Family Partnership Flier</li> <li>• B-3 Closure</li> <li>• Lesson B-4 Closure</li> </ul> <p><u>Tier C:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson C-1 Family Partnership Flier</li> <li>• Lesson C-4 Activity 2 &amp; Closure</li> <li>• Lesson C-6 Activity 1</li> </ul>

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<p>(b) Include a discussion of the possible emotional, economic, and legal consequences of sex.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes: At the age sex is explained, the consequences should be discussed.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Tier A:</u> Sex is not explained.  <u>Tier B:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson B-6 Introduction &amp; Activities 1 &amp; 2</li> </ul> <p><u>Tier C:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson C-4 Activity 2 &amp; Closure</li> <li>• Lesson C-6 Activity 1</li> </ul>
<p>(c) Stress that unplanned pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases are serious possibilities of sex that are not fully preventable except by abstinence.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes: At the age sex is explained, negative consequences and how to avoid them should be discussed.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Tier A:</u> Sex is not explained.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson A-6 Closure Optional</li> </ul> <p><u>Tier B:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson B-5 Activity 3</li> <li>• Lesson B-6 Introduction</li> </ul> <p><u>Tier C:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson C-4 Activity 2 &amp; Closure</li> <li>• Lesson C-6 Activity 1</li> </ul>
<p>(d) Advise pupils of the laws pertaining to their responsibility as parents to children born in and out of wedlock.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No: The vast majority of this age group is not bearing children.</li> </ul>	
<p>(e) Ensure that pupils are not taught in a way that condones the violation of the laws of this state pertaining to sexual activity, including, but not limited to, sections 158, 335a, 338, 338a, 338b, and 520b to 520e of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes: Instruction of this age group can avoid discussion of the issues in these laws.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Tier A:</u> All Lessons  <u>Tier B:</u> All Lessons  <u>Tier C:</u> All Lessons</p>

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<p>MCL 750.158, 750.335a, 750.338, 750.338a, 750.338b, and 750.520b to 750.520e.</p>		
<p>(f) Teach pupils how to say "no" to sexual advances and that it is wrong to take advantage of, harass, or exploit another person sexually.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No (sexual advances): The majority of this age group is developmentally not interested in sexual advances.</li> <li>• Yes (harassment): This age group needs skills to deal with situations involving harassment.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Tier A:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson A-4</li> </ul> <p><u>Tier B:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson B-5 Activity 2</li> </ul> <p><u>Tier C:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson C-6 Activities A, B, 2, 3, Closure</li> </ul>
<p>(g) Teach refusal skills and encourage pupils to resist pressure to engage in risky behavior.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes: Refusal skills are vital to equip this age group to avoid risk behavior.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Tier A:</u> no**</p> <p><u>Tier B:</u> no**</p> <p><u>Tier C:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson C-6 Activities A, B, 2, 3, Closure</li> </ul>
<p>(h) Teach that the pupil has the power to control personal behavior. Pupils shall be taught to base their actions on reasoning, self-discipline, a sense of responsibility, self-control, and ethical considerations such as respect for self and others.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes: This age group is becoming more autonomous and independent and able to accept personal responsibility for their behavior.</li> </ul>	<p><u>Tier A:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson A-4</li> </ul> <p><u>Tier B:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson B-5 Activity 2</li> <li>• Lesson B-6 Activity 2</li> </ul> <p><u>Tier C:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson C-5</li> <li>• Lesson C-6 Introduction &amp; Activity 1</li> </ul>
<p>(i) Provide instruction on healthy dating relationships and on how to set limits and recognize a dangerous environment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No: The vast majority of this age group is not ready for dating.</li> </ul>	

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<p>(j) Provide information for pupils about how young parents can learn more about adoption services and about the provisions of the safe delivery of newborns law, chapter XII of the probate code of 1939, 1939 PA 288, MCL 712.1 to 712.20.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No: The vast majority of this age group is not bearing children.</li> </ul>	
<p>(k) Include information clearly informing pupils that having sex or sexual contact with an individual under the age of 16 is a crime punishable by imprisonment and that 1 of the other results of being convicted of this crime is to be listed on the sex offender registry on the internet for up to 25 years.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No: The vast majority of this age group has not had sex, and criminalizing sex would negatively impact their initial learning about sex.</li> </ul>	

- \* Whether or not these criteria are age appropriate is the author's opinion, which may differ from a sex education advisory board's conclusions.
- \*\* Teach the refusal skills lessons in the *Michigan Model for Comprehensive School Health Education* to teach refusal skills and encourage pupils to resist pressure to engage in risky behavior as required by criteria g.