

Safe Environment Training for Children

Lesson and Background

Grades K-2

Main Points for Safe Environment Training for Children Curriculum Gr. K-12:

1. We are made in the image and likeness of God.
2. Our bodies are special because they are Temples of the Holy Spirit.
3. No one should touch us in a way that makes us feel uncomfortable, particularly in the places covered by a swimsuit.
4. If someone does touch us in a way that makes us feel uncomfortable, we should have someone to whom we can go to get it to stop.

Preparation Activity and Primary Proclamation:

- Display the following poem for students to see.
- Read the poem with joy and enthusiasm, having students repeat after you.
- Help students memorize the poem through repetition, using actions, and/or having them complete each line after you start-and-stop. ("God made me".... *Students finish the line.*)

God made me, don't you see?

(Raise both hands upward, as though directing to God.)

His own life, inside of me!

(Using fists with thumbs up, tap chest a few times.)

I thank God by taking care...

(Raise both hands upward, as though directing to God.)

Head to toe and EVERYWHERE!

(Touch head. Touch toes. Move hands up entire body.)

My body's special... You see! (said in a normal tone)

Your body's special... You see! (said in a quieter tone)

My body's special... You see! (said in a whisper)

- Pray in these or similar words:
Loving God, you made me and you love me. Thank you for making me.
Help me to always praise you by taking care of me and loving you. We pray as Jesus taught us: Our Father...

Explanation:

- Ask students to share traits that make the children different using some of the following questions, as appropriate for the age of the children. Be sure to recognize the differences as beautiful gifts that make everyone unique and special.
 - What is one thing that makes you different from me?
 - How do you look different from someone in your family?
 - How do you act differently than one of your friends?
- Share the following points:
 - God made everyone with different shapes, colors, sizes, and abilities.
 - Yet... God made us all alike in one way.

- We are all alike because we all have God’s love inside of us and can learn to love like God loves. (Be enthusiastic and joyful. This is a great gift from God!!!)
 - Draw a simple outline of a person on the board, and draw a heart in the center of the body with “GOD” written inside the heart. Remind the children that God lives inside us, God’s love lives inside us. (Again, be enthusiastic and joyful. This is a great gift from God!!!)
 - Ask: How can we love like God loves? (forgiving, helping, sharing, being kind, etc...)
 - Review and repeat the first two lines of the Primary Proclamation.
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- Ask: What is the name of the special building where God always lives? (church) Draw a simple outline of a church on the board, and draw a heart in the center of the church with “GOD” written inside the church.
 - Talk about special ways we take care of the church because God lives inside the church. (decorated it beautifully with stained glass, artwork, and liturgical decorations, keep it clean, walk and talk quietly inside, etc...)
 - Explain that we take care of ourselves and others, too, because God lives inside US!
 - Ask the children how we take care of our bodies. (eating healthy foods, getting enough sleep, exercising, using sunscreen, wearing glasses if they help us see, protecting and covering our bodies, wearing sunscreen, etc...)
 - If it hasn’t been mentioned, be sure to explain that we take care of our bodies by covering the parts of our bodies that are normally covered by our swimsuits. Remind them that these parts of our body are our private parts and we cover them because no one should see or touch them except a parent or a doctor when we are with our parents.
 - Explain that if someone tries to see or touch our private parts or if anyone makes us feel uncomfortable or “yucky” inside in any way, we should never keep this a secret, even if the person asks us to keep it a secret.
 - Explain that we should also respect others, because God lives in them, too! (Define respect as showing others and ourselves the kindness that is deserved because God made them, loves them, and is within them.)
 - Define reverence as a deep respect we show to God. Explain that when we show respect for others we also reverence God inside them.
 - Ask students to share ways we might respect others and reverence God inside them. (hugging family and friends, helping neighbors, including classmates, forgiving others)
 - Ask students to share ways we might NOT show respect for others and NOT show reverence for God inside them. (hitting, teasing, ignoring, etc..)
 - Review and repeat the Primary Proclamation.
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- Remind children that each of them deserves to be treated with respect, too, and explain that they should tell someone they trust if someone does not show them respect. Make sure the children understand that most people show love with kind words, a hug, or other loving gestures; but sometimes people show disrespect or may even try to hurt us. Tell children that when someone tries to harm us, we need to know who to go to to help us stay safe.
 - Ask them to name a person(s) they could tell if:
 - Someone hit them on the playground?
 - Someone was bullying them on the way home from school?

- Someone tried to see or touch a private part of their body in a way that made them feel uncomfortable?
- Someone told them to keep something a secret that made them feel uncomfortable or that gave them a “yucky” feeling inside.
- Review and repeat the Primary Proclamation.

Application:

- Distribute “K-2 Who to Tell Coloring Sheet.” This worksheet is available to download in the Shared Drives>Protection of Children>Safe Environment Training for Children Materials>Materials for Grades K-8 folder or by using this link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1W8QCkksFB7T05r8Fum6BkW4BtJerkiHS/view?usp=sharing>
- Invite students to write names of those they could tell if someone does not show respect or tries to hurt them. Students may also take the sheet home and ask parents who they can tell if someone tries to hurt them.
- Children may color the worksheet as time allows.

Celebration:

- The Butterfly Song: <https://safeshare.tv/x/ss5e39d70b101fa#> (Create and include “animal actions” to accompany the song for a greater celebration!)
- Give children an index card with “GOOD NEWS” and a smiling face on one side and “BAD NEWS” and a sad face on the reverse side. Share the following phrases and ask them to decide if it is good or bad news and then show the GOOD NEWS side or the BAD NEWS side or the card.
 - God made me.
 - God lives inside me.
 - I keep my body clean because my body is special.
 - I sometimes talk my friends into lying to their parents.
 - I eat healthy foods because my body is special.
 - I have family and friends who show their care by giving me hugs that comfort me.
 - I sometimes hit others.
 - I keep my private body parts covered because my body is special.
 - God gave me people I love and trust. I can tell these people if someone doesn’t show me respect.
- Prayer:
 - Dear God, thank you for making me special and thank you for living inside me. This is Good News! Help me to love with your love. Help me show respect for others. Help me show reverence for You inside others because you deserve all my love. You are great indeed! Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
- Repeat the Primary Proclamation

Additional SETFC Media Resources:

A listing of additional SETFC Media Resources are available in the Shared Drives>Protection of Children>Safe Environment Training for Children Materials>Materials for Grades K-8 folder or by

using this link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1F9PpuUbMAhPP0nkYAhq8lvd4QnK3b0u6/view?usp=sharing>