Lesson 21: Addressing Myths & Stereotypes Regarding People Living with HIV

**OBJECTIVES**

1. Students will be able to identify myths and stereotypes regarding people living with HIV.
2. Students will increase their understanding, respect, and compassion for people living with HIV.

**AGENDA**

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**MATERIALS**

- Scratch Paper (for each student)
- Homework: Accessing HIV Resources

**CALIFORNIA HEALTH EDUCATION STANDARDS**

5.4.G *Evaluate the risks and consequences associated with sexual activities including HIV, other STIs, and pregnancy.*

8.2.G *Advocate the respect for and dignity of people living with HIV or AIDS.*
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BEFORE THE CLASS

For this lesson, contact the Huckleberry Youth Programs to schedule an HIV+ speaker to come to your class. Please contact them at least two weeks in advance to schedule the presentation.

Huckleberry Youth Programs
555 Cole Street
San Francisco, CA 94117
Phone: 415-386-9398
Fax: 415-386-8212
workshops@huckleberryouth.org

DO NOW 5 minutes

Materials
- Every student needs a notebook, journal, or paper and a pen
- Flipchart or whiteboard and markers

Activity
Write on board and have students complete the following question:
What is the difference between HIV and AIDS?

If there is time have students share their answers and correct any misinformation.

GUEST SPEAKER 30 minutes

Materials
- Scratch paper for each student

Activity
Remind students of the classroom expectations for behavior, especially for when a speaker comes to class. Highlight the necessity to uphold confidentiality and respect for the guest speaker. Let students know they will have time to ask questions of the guest speaker at the end. If they do not want to forget their question, have them write it down on the scratch paper while the speaker is talking, rather than interrupting the speaker.

Teacher Tip:
Be sure to let the speaker know when the class ends. If it is helpful you can give them 10 or 5 minute warnings before their time is up.

Be Real. Be Ready.
Lesson 2: Addressing Myths & Stereotypes Regarding People Living with HIV

Suggested Script:
Today we have a guest speaker joining us to share with us about their experience with HIV. Please be respectful while the presenter is speaking. Remember, this means no talking while the presenter is talking and be sure to give your full attention to the speaker. The speaker is taking time to share their experience with us so that we can learn from them. Not all students get this experience and we are grateful that we can have someone share such a valuable perspective on something we are learning about: HIV. Please also remember that everything shared today is confidential. That means while you are allowed to share what you learned, how you felt, and your experience today, you cannot share any personal information or names from the stories shared in class today. At the end of the presentation you will have time to ask questions.

Introduce the speaker to the class and have them share their story. Once the speaker is done sharing their story help facilitate a question and answer session. Tell the class that the speaker can refuse to answer any questions for any reason.

LETTER WRITING DEBRIEF ACTIVITY 15 minutes

Activity
After the speaker has finished the presentation and answered questions, debrief the experience by having students write a letter to the speaker thanking them for coming. Ask students to include at least two of the following points in their letters:

- Something they learned in the presentation
- Something they enjoyed about the presentation
- Something the presentation made them think about
- Something they would like to learn more about after the presentation

Teacher Tip:
Have the students ask questions out loud by raising their hands. Or you can collect their questions on slips of paper and give them to the presenter to have them select which questions they feel comfortable answering.

HOMEWORK

Accessing HIV Resources
Homework: Accessing HIV Resources

Name: ________________________________________________________________
Period: ___________________ Date: ____________________

**Directions:** For the questions below, you will explore an imagined experience: Getting tested for HIV. You will use three main questions to reflect in your imagined experience.

**Imagine** you are getting tested for HIV at a local clinic or health center. Describe your experience by answering each question below in full sentences.

**1. What?** Describe the experience. What would you observe, notice, and feel?

2. **So what?** Discuss your feelings and ideas. Analyze the experience. What would you think about during this experience? What would you like/dislike about the experience? How is this significant to your life?

3. **Now what?** Consider what happens after getting tested. What would you like to learn more about? What information would you share with your peers about this? What will you do differently after getting tested?

*Be Real. Be Ready.*