

Chapter 24 Parent Letter and Activities

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The topic of sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS is a serious and essential area of knowledge for teens. An estimated 10,000 young people are infected every day. An estimated 65 million Americans are living with an incurable sexually transmitted disease. Sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, are the current subject of your teen's health class. Your son or daughter will learn about common sexually transmitted diseases, their symptoms, treatment, and how they can be avoided through abstinence.

Your teen will explore the following topics in this chapter:

- Sexually Transmitted Diseases.
- Preventing and Treating STDs.
- HIV/AIDS.
- Preventing and Treating HIV/AIDS.

Your participation in your teen's health education is important. To support our classroom work, please complete one or more of the following activities with your teen: Discuss the problems that can result from sexual contact and discuss common sexually transmitted diseases. Discuss with your teen the role abstinence plays in the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases. Talk about common STD symptoms and talk with your daughter or son about what should be done if a teen believes he or she is infected. Discuss the HIV/AIDS epidemic with your teen and examine the relationship between sexual behavior and risk of infection.

Please plan other activities you think will help your son or daughter develop an understanding of the value and practice of abstinence. Thank you for supporting our classroom work. Feel free to contact me if you wish to discuss your teen's health education.

Sincerely,

Health Teacher

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