



## Drug and Opioid Abuse Prevention Resources

The following information provides an overview of how issues related to drug use and abuse are addressed in the [2017 South Carolina Standards for Health and Safety Education](#).

Information is grouped within the following grade bands: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12. Links to free resources to support instruction are included within each band.

For additional information, please contact Ben Miedema, Education Associate for Health and Physical Education, at [bjmiedema@ed.sc.gov](mailto:bjmiedema@ed.sc.gov)

### Kindergarten through Second Grade

In grades K-2, students should be able to define and identify the difference between drugs and medicine while being able to demonstrate ways to say no to drugs and to discourage others from using drugs. Students should be able to identify adults in the home, school, and community who can answer questions related to drugs, and they should be able to identify adults from whom they can receive medicine.

#### *Helpful Resources for Kindergarten through Second Grade*

- [Medicines in my home – FDA](#)
- [Kids Health in the Classroom – Drugs](#)
- [Medication Safety and Your Health – CDC](#)
- [Health and Opioid Prevention Education \(HOPE\) – Wright State University](#)

### Third through Fifth Grade

Students in grades 3-5 should be able to identify ways drugs can harm a person's physical, mental, and social health as well as his or her ability to make decisions. Students at this grade level should understand the importance of refusal skills and be able to describe the harmful effects of drug abuse on an individual, on the individual's friends and family, and on society in general.

#### *Helpful Resources for Third through Fifth Grade*

- [Medicines in my home – FDA](#)
- [Health and Opioid Prevention Education \(HOPE\) – Wright State University](#)

### **Sixth through Eighth Grade**

In grades 6-8, students should be able to identify reasons why people abuse drugs, and they should understand how misuse and abuse of drugs can lead to drug dependence. Students should be able to define opioid prescription medication and drugs and discuss how family, peers, culture, and media influence opioid use. At this grade range, students should be able to discuss the risks, as well as the short- and long-term consequences associated with drug use, abuse, and addiction.

#### ***Helpful Resources for Sixth through Eighth Grade***

- [Health and Opioid Prevention Education \(HOPE\) – Wright State University](#)
- [Opioids: What You Need to Know – National Institute on Drug Abuse](#)
- [Medication Misuse – Partnership to End Addiction](#)

### **Ninth through Twelfth Grade**

In high school, students should be able to describe the effects of the cycle of addiction on individuals, families, and society. Students should possess the skills to access valid information and resources to assist in dealing with drug use and abuse to include opioid abuse and addiction. Students should demonstrate how to promote intervention and help those suffering from drug use or abuse.

#### ***Helpful Resources for Ninth through Twelfth Grade***

- [Health and Opioid Prevention Education \(HOPE\) – Wright State University](#)
- [Opioids: What You Need to Know – National Institute on Drug Abuse](#)
- [Just Plain Killers.com – SC Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities](#)