

Just the Facts.

Science-Based Health Education

March 2019
School Newsletter

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From the Experts

Teen Pregnancy Rate-Increasing or Decreasing? by Olivia Starr

As an educator for the Robert Crown Center, I spend a considerable amount of time in front of 8th graders discussing pregnancy prevention. A few weeks ago, I became curious about the students' perceptions of teen pregnancy trends. I posed a question to one of the groups I was teaching: Do you think teen pregnancy has been increasing or decreasing in the past couple of decades? The students overwhelmingly guessed that teen pregnancy has been increasing. I repeated this admittedly unscientific poll in several more classes and found the results to always be similar; students assume the worst.



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Body Trek Summer Camp

Do you have a student that's a budding doctor or scientist? Tell them about our *Body Trek* Summer Camp.



FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS ENTERING GRADES 6-8

Summer Science Camp
Body Trek

- HINSDALE: June 24-28, 9am-4pm
The Community House
- NAPERVILLE: July 8-12, 9am-4pm
North Central College

\$500 for this one week, one-of-a-kind experience



Led by health and medical professionals, Body Trek provides opportunities that most students don't have the chance to experience including:

- Organ dissection
- Medical Research
- Field trips with hands-on experiences
- Medical field job exploration and presentations

Robert Crown Center for Health Education

SPACE IS LIMITED SO REGISTER TODAY AT WWW.ROBERTCROWN.ORG/EVENTS

For students entering 6-8th grades, it's perfect for the aspiring doctor, nurse or scientist! Campers get the chance to experience dissections, medical research and unique field trips. Take a look at our [flyer](#).

Hinsdale:
June 24-28
Community House

Naperville:
July 8-12
North Central College

Questions about the camp, please contact us at info@robertcrown.org.

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In the News

Associated Press:

Illinois Bill Defines Consent for Sex Education Classes



SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) -- An Illinois lawmaker has proposed legislation that aims to provide a more comprehensive definition of consent for sex education classes in the state.

The State Journal-Register reports that the bill defines consent as "a freely given agreement to sexual activity." The bill directs schools to use the definition

when discussing consent, since current state law doesn't offer a specific definition.

The bill also states that the way a person is dressed doesn't imply consent, that consent for a past sexual activity doesn't apply to future activities and that consent can be withdrawn at any time.

Democratic Rep. Ann Williams says she's sponsoring the measure because she saw a lack of discussion regarding consent as officials looked to address sexual assault. Sexual violence prevention advocates say the more detailed definition will help students better understand boundaries.

Different Viewpoints

A series of short articles from different age groups and their perspective on health education as they see it.

Conforming to Social Media's False Reality by Sydney Thayer



In the short 5 minute passing period between classes I can take one glance up and see the eyes of nearly half of my peers glued to the screens of their phones. Those who aren't looking at their screen in the hallways, will often pull it out as soon as they get to their next class. With eyes glued on the shining screen in front of them, and their thumbs swiping, typing, and double tapping teens scroll through their Instagram feed or respond to the countless snapchats that they receive each day. Social media has totally changed the lives of teenagers and has introduced a new problem in fighting substance abuse among them.

[READ MORE >](#)

Did you Hear?

All-New Puberty I - "Understanding Changes" is READY!

Spring has sprung...so what better time to launch our new puberty education program. The new PUBERTY I- UNDERSTANDING CHANGES is an SEL infused, blended learning program that uses storytelling and age-



appropriate scenarios to help students understand puberty. [Schedule](#) your program today.

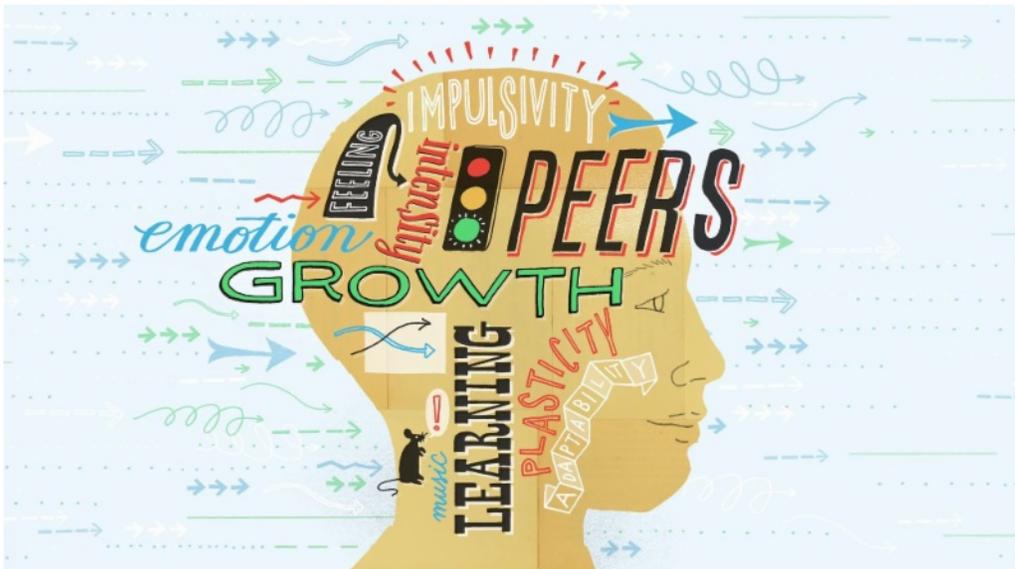
[LEARN MORE >](#)

In the News

Edutopia:

Decoding the Teenage Brain (in 3 Charts)

New technologies are shedding light on what really makes adolescents tick-and providing clues on how we might reach them better.



A recent interview with British neuroscientist Sarah-Jayne Blakemore, the author of the 2018 book *Inventing Ourselves: The Secret Life of the Teenage Brain*, begins with a caveat.

"I think it's important to know before we start that up until 20 years ago we really didn't know that the brain changes at all after childhood," she confides. "That's what I was taught during my undergraduate degree. We now know that's completely untrue."

In matters of settled opinion, science has often found itself in the role of provocateur, even saboteur-prodding at conventional wisdoms until they yield unexpected truths, and sometimes toppling them entirely. The mysteries of celestial bodies, heredity, and mental illness have all undergone dramatic rethinking.

[READ MORE >](#)

[Help Us Better Understand the Students](#)

The Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) has been working with the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign to gather anonymous data on 8th, 10th or 12th grade students. Your school can participate to help get a better understanding of the health and wellness of our students.



[LEARN MORE >](#)

Meet the Team

Liz Carter - Health Educator



Liz received her Bachelor of Science in Community Health Education from Illinois State University. During that time, she became a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) through The National Commission for Health Education (NCHEC). Liz joined the Robert Crown Center as a Health Educator in April 2017.

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