



Activity: 3-4.5.2

Key Message

- There are some types of touching that we like.

Activity Details

Victorian Curriculum

Health & PE Identify and practise strategies to promote health, safety and wellbeing
VCHPEP091

Capabilities VCECU005, VCPSCSE016

Time 40 minutes

Levels 3 & 4

- Equipment**
- selected picture story books
 - magazines
 - class set of *The touch I like* worksheet

The touching I like

Purpose

To provide the opportunity for children to identify appropriate touching.

Teaching notes

Learning about what sort of touching is appropriate and what is inappropriate is one of the most difficult aspects of teaching protective behaviour. We refer to 'touching I like' or 'appropriate touching' rather than 'safe touching' for a number of reasons. There is an unstated assumption that if touching feels alright it is safe. Abuse often has its beginnings in safe touches such as kissing and hugging and children are unable to reconcile 'unsafe' behaviour with 'good' people.

Procedure

1. Use pictures from books and magazines to demonstrate touches that people are obviously enjoying and are safe. You might like to gather a selection of pictures yourself or have the children flick through books and magazines to find them themselves.
2. Ask the students what is happening in the picture. What kind of touching is that? Is it okay for people to touch like that?
3. Ask the students to list all the touches we need. This would include hugs, pats, kisses and strokes that are clearly enjoyed by both parties.
4. Discuss what it feels like when we get appropriate touches that we like.
5. Distribute *The touching I like* worksheet to the students, giving them time to complete them.
6. Students may like to share their responses. Discuss key issues as a class.

Used with permission from Briggs, F 2000, *Teaching children to protect themselves: a resource for teachers and adults who care for young children*, Allen and Unwin, Crows Nest, NSW.



The touching I like

Some touches are great! These are the touches I like:

This is a picture of someone who gives me touches that I like:

This person is called: _____

I like giving good touches, too. Here are the good touches I give:

I give good touches to:

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