

ASK ME ANYTHING

Interesting facts:

There are over _____ teen pregnancies each year.

Young children ask over _____ questions a day! (Wow!!)

A recent survey showed that _____ out of 10 teens would rather get their sex information from their parents, but only _____ out of ten feels comfortable asking their parents.

_____ % of teenagers are unhappy with how they look.

YOUNG CHILDREN-INFANCY TO FIVE YEARS

1. All children are born _____.
2. Children develop important _____ attitudes and behavioral patterns from infancy to _____ years of age.
3. Correct names for _____ should always be used.
4. Don't give the impression that any _____ is bad or _____, even if you chose not to answer it.
5. Masturbation is _____ behavior for infants; by age _____ introduce the idea of _____.
6. The more we talk, the less inhibited we become and the more _____ we will be when they are older.

SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN

1. Just because _____ to _____ year-old children stop asking questions doesn't mean they are not curious. Not _____ a question doesn't make it go away.
2. Look for _____ opportunities to get them talking.
3. Use _____ to get discussions started.
4. Educating their child about sex is the responsibility of _____.
5. Parents should bring up their own _____ as a way of initiating discussions.
6. Begin puberty education before it starts, between ages _____ to _____.

PRE-TEENS

1. Adolescents need to constantly be reassured that the physical _____ they are going through are _____.
2. Make sure your child is aware that puberty may start anywhere from _____ to _____ years old.
3. Peers often have a greater influence than _____ at this age.
4. Use TV as a _____.
5. More than anything else teens need _____ approval and support build _____.

TEENS

1. Encourage independent _____.
2. Don't trivialize or _____, this will put teens off.
3. Since more than _____ of teens are sexually active, discuss AIDS, contraception, and STDs.
4. _____ to our children and _____ them will give them an increased sense of self worth.
5. Keep the lines of communication _____.

STAGES OF SEX PLAY IN CHILDHOOD

Parents often voice concern about what constitutes "normal" sex play and exploration among children. "Is playing doctor normal or exploitative?" is a frequent question from parents. The generalized stages listed below are normal stages for children to pass through, and they outline patterns of normal curiosity and behavior. It should be emphasized that sexual abuse may be committed by a person under the age of 18 if he/she is significantly older than the victim or is in a position of power or control over another child. The following is taken from Child Behavior by Francis Ilg and Louise Ames

Common Behaviors

Approximate Age Group

2.5 years: Child shows interest in different postures of boys and girls when urinating and is interested in physical differences between the sexes.

3 years: Verbally expresses interest in physical differences between sexes and in different postures in urinating. Girls attempt to urinate standing up.

4 years: Extremely conscious of the naval. Under social stress may grasp genitals and may need to urinate. May play the game of "show". Also verbally expressive about elimination. Interested in other people's bathrooms. May demand privacy for self but extremely interested in bathroom activities of others.

5 years: Familiar with, but not too much interested in, physical differences between sexes. Less sex play and games of "show". More modest, less exposing of self. Less bathroom play and less interested in unfamiliar bathrooms.

6 years: Marked awareness of and interest in differences between sexes in body structure. Questioning. Mutual investigation by both sexes reveals practical answers to questions about sex differences. Mild sex play or exhibitionism in play or in school toilets. Game of "show". May play hospital and take rectal temperature. Giggling, calling names, or remarks involving words dealing with elimination functions. Some children are subjected to sex play by older children: the age and power differences between are critical in defining this as normal sex play or exploration.

7 years: Less interest in sex. Some mutual exploration, experimentation, and sex play, but less than earlier.

8 years: Interest in sex rather high, though sex exploration and play is less common than at six. Interest in peeping, smutty jokes, provocative giggling. Children whisper, write, or spell "elimination" or "sex" words.

STAGES OF SEX PLAY IN CHILDHOOD (Continued)

9 years: May talk about sex information with friends of same sex. Interest in details of own organs and functions. Seeks out pictures in books. Sex swearing, sex poems begin.

10 years: Considerable interest in "smutty" jokes.