How to use the “Empowering God’s Children” Curriculum

Thank you for facilitating the Safe Environment Curriculum to our students in K-12. This meets our requirements with the USCCB Charter.

Below you will find print screens, arrows and text boxes to help you conduct this training. You will start by going to www.virtus.org and logging in with your user id and password. Your Principal or Pastor should’ve notified the Safe Environment Coordinator Office know that you needed the Educator tab. If you don’t have this tab consult with your Principal/Pastor so they can contact me. We are using Lesson 3 for the 2020-2021 audit/school year.

You will log into www.virtus.org with your user id and password. Then click “sign in”.

Your Teenage Dictionary

It can be hard to understand teenagers sometimes, but understanding some of the words they use may be the first step. Read More

The summer months bring the patriotic holidays in which we celebrate all of the wonderful

When you begin a mentoring role with a child, consistency is key.

Bae: It’s hard to escape this one! It’s a term of endearment that is the result of the progression from calling someone “baby” to “babey” and now “bae” (e.g. “I’m going to the movies with bae”).

Basic: Common, ordinary or mainstream, “basic” is usually an insult about another person (e.g. “I thought she might be interesting, but she’s just basic”).

Fam: Closest friends, derived for “family” (e.g. “Hey fam, what’s going on today?”).
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Videos and Lesson Plans

Step 1:
Read this overview of the program.

Step 2:
This is the Teaching Boundaries and Safety Guide for Adults, Parents, and Guardians. These can be printed and sent home or you can order them at .85 cents each. Order form at the end of instructions. *This guide is not to be given to the students.

Step 3:
Opt Out Form – this is done on Diocesan Letterhead and in pdf format. You can type write on the form. Have to keep these forever. You will find it at the end of these instructions.

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How do I get the Icebreaker Videos?
There are a videos (ice breaker and age appropriate) on left side of your screen called Power to Protect 2.0; Elementary School, Middle School and High School.

How do I get Lesson plans?
You will click on the “continue” link and this will take you to the Lesson Plans. The link is after Step 3.
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You will use the down arrow to select the grade level you are teaching to get the proper lessons and activities. Then click “Continue”. Lessons and activities can be printed off and used as needed.

Since I selected “Grades K through 2” this is what you would see. *Teaching Safety title is in the process of being removed.

Make sure you select Lesson 3 Boundaries: You Have Rights! Then Continue

Lesson 3 – Boundaries: You Have Rights! For Grades K through 2
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Lesson 3 (1 hr.) is the curriculum we will use for Year 3 2020-2021
There is 6 activities you can choose from. You only have to do 1 but if you wish to do more that is fine also.

This Lesson can be broken up throughout the year if you wish just as long as it is done by April 1. We highly recommend doing this in the fall before Christmas break. Due to unforeseen circumstances the last 2 years, we hope by doing this in the fall we could get this done. If you do break up the training into 2 half hour sessions, **DO NOT** record the training until you have finished the full 45-1 hour session.

We do have other resources that can be used in addition to the Lesson Plans.
Ex: Healthy Relationships for Teens, Supplemental Activities, NetSmarz, and Kidsmartz
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Record Training

After you have completed the 45 min to 1 hour training of the students you will need to record the training. This Lesson can be broken up throughout the year if you wish just as long as it is done by April 1. *A suggestion is to do this in the fall so it is done in case of bad weather. If you do break up the training into 2 half hour sessions, **DO NOT** record the training until you have finished the full 45 mins to 1 hour session.

**Catholic Schools**

Principals and teachers will have access to the Educator Tab. Teachers will be able to record training right after the curriculum is done. I have created a sheet that allows the data to be written down if needed and then recorded in VIRTUS. It is highly recommended to hold a parent meeting to see the curriculum. There is still an Opt Form if needed. You cannot send curriculum home as homework and have it counted as the student trained. Principals or Safe Environment Local Designee will need to verify the teachers have the Educators tab. To do that look at the print screen below. If there is no check box marked on a teachers account please contact Virginia to assign it.

**Parish Religious Education/Youth Ministry/Prep classes**

SEC/Dre’s/YM have access to the Educator Tab. Lessons and activities can be printed off by one of the approved people listed above. I have created a sheet that allows the data to be written down and then given to the Dre/YM or SEC to enter into VIRTUS. Your parish will determine who will be entering the data into VIRTUS. It is highly recommended you hold a parent meeting to see the Curriculum. There is still an Opt Form if needed. Additional Resources are also listed on the VIRTUS Educators Tab. You cannot send curriculum home as homework and have it counted as the student trained. Please check to see whoever needs the “educators” tab has it. It will be on their account “general” tab.

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Training will be recorded here once the full session is completed. Discuss who will be doing the data entry at the parish level. All Educators have access to this tab.

These areas are required areas to be completed. Whoever is logged into VIRTUS will be the person it defaults too. So if this is someone else please edit that information. When done click on “record training.”
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*If you make an error when entering the data you will need to contact Virginia to fix the error.