

High School English Substance Abuse Integration Instructional Resource Page

Weaving substance abuse education through your English curriculum will allow you to explore the topics you currently teach in meaningful and relevant ways with students. Whether you are focusing on themes in literature, author studies or personal narratives, you can help students make connections with relevant issues of substance abuse.

Lesson ideas to incorporate into your existing curriculum:

Mini research on authors with addictive behavior
– impact on writing/work/life/productivity

Journals – PSA type of entries/discussion

Journals – prompts specific to author

Non-fiction article – author’s purpose to inform

- What did the author inform
- 3 things you learned that you didn’t know
- Pick one to research further and write your own non-fiction to inform piece

Create an intervention for an author with addictive behavior

- Break up into groups of 4-5
- Choose an author with an addictive behavior
- Create an intervention that will be presented
- Research facts on the particular addiction and methods of treatment

Journal prompts:

- Write a letter to yourself with the intention that you'll be reading this again at the end of the school year. Think about your goals, where your head is now, and where you hope to be in 10 months.
- Have you ever been bullied, teased or picked on? If so, about what?
- What stresses you out, and how do you cope with that stress?
- What was the most difficult thing you overcame this (or last) school year?
- What are some reasons why teens may think smoking is cool? Do you agree?
- How do teens and adults react differently to risks and rewards?
- What are some ways you could put the “brakes” on to give more thought to risky actions before doing them?
- In your experience, are you more likely to do something risky if you know your friends are watching you?
- Do parents influence whether or not teens use drugs?
- What is the best way for parents to communicate with their kids about risky behaviors, such as taking drugs?

- How can teens balance their need to think independently with listening to their parents' advice?
- Do you avoid certain hobbies, interests, or even potential new friends because you're afraid of what your current friends will think?
- What would you say to someone who needs drug abuse treatment but isn't getting it for fear of being judged?
- What are some challenges that might be faced by children of parents who abuse drugs or alcohol?
- Where can youth with parents who abuse drugs or alcohol turn to get help?
- How do you think having parents who abuse drugs or alcohol can change someone's childhood?

Authors with addiction issues:

William Faulkner
 John Cheever
 Dorothy Parker
 Edgar Allan Poe
 Truman Capote
 James Joyce
 Hunter S. Thompson
 Carson McCullers
 Charles Bukowski
 Ernest Hemingway
 William Burroughs
 John Keats
 Norman Mailer
 F. Scott Fitzgerald
 Jack Kerouac
 Dylan Thomas
 Tennessee Williams
 O. Henry
 Stephen King
 Philip K. Dick
 Elizabeth Barrett Browning
 Aleister Crowley
 Grace Metalious

Non-Fiction Articles:

Author's Purpose:

To inform:

http://www.nytimes.com/2016/06/10/world/americas/drug-that-killed-prince-is-making-mexican-cartels-richer-us-says.html?rref=collection%2Ftimestopic%2FHeroin&action=click&contentCollection=timestopics®ion=stream&module=stream_unit&version=latest&contentPlacement=2&pgtype=collection&_r=0

To persuade:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/10/17/reasons-to-stop-smoking_n_4096658.html

To entertain:

<http://www.cnn.com/2016/06/15/entertainment/taylor-swift-tom-hiddleston-couple-photos/index.html>

Resources:

<http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcbcs/bdas/documents/issue-brief-heroin.pdf>

Resources for author research:

<http://www.biographyonline.net/writers.html>

<http://www.nytimes.com/ref/books/literary-biographies.html>

<http://drugabuse.com/25-great-writers-who-battled-drug-addiction-and-alcoholism/>

<http://listverse.com/2013/08/23/10-literary-figures-with-crippling-drug-addictions/>

<http://writerswrite.co.za/writers-of-substance-abuse>

<https://www.thefix.com/content/10-best-addiction-memoirs>

Resources for literary characters, stories, and novels with addiction issues:

<https://www.thefix.com/content/10-best-addiction-memoirs>

<http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2013/12/28/the-10-best-books-on-literary-drunkenness.html>