



HOME CONNECTIONS

Eighth Grade / Substance Use Disorder

Dear Parents and Guardians,

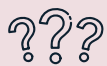
Your child's school has teamed up with Emily's Hope to bring a unique Substance Use Prevention Curriculum to students. The curriculum is designed to teach students about how their brain develops, understand their emotions and pressures, and help children build the skills and confidence to make healthy choices now and in the future.



Lesson Highlights

Key Learning Adventures:

This week's topic focused on substance use disorder and stigma, looking closely at how societal biases impact how substance use is viewed. In reality, substance use disorder knows no boundaries and is seen across all social demographics. Addiction and substance use disorder can affect anyone. The younger one is when they use a drug or substance, the greater the chance of developing a substance use disorder. This is why it is important to create healthy habits and decision-making skills.



Why it Matters

It is important for students to learn about substance use disorder because their developing brains are especially vulnerable to addiction. Early education is a proven way to reduce the risk of future health, academic, and social problems. Understanding the facts about substance use can give students the skills and confidence to make healthy choices.



Conversation Starters



Ask your student to share, in their own words as to why someone would turn to drugs or alcohol to cope with daily life. What are healthier ways to cope?

With your student, list out some common stigmas about substance use disorder. Ask your child why their words matter in eliminating stigma.

Discuss with your student how they would want someone they love to be treated if they had a substance use disorder.

**Stopping Stigma.
Saving Lives.**



Parent Resources

Emily's Hope Substance Use Prevention Curriculum
<https://emilyshopeedu.org/>

Emily's Hope Parent Resources
<https://parents.emilyshopeedu.org>

Emily's Hope website
<https://emilyshope.charity/>