

TEKS Proclamation 2022

QuaverEd•PE Response to Public Comments

Thank you for your time and diligence reviewing our resources.

This document provides new content URLs or samples in response to public comments with specific suggestions or feedback, posted October 2021.

Comment 1:

"I wish that the PE physical skills were more interactive with videos and not just pictures of the skills.

I wish that there were more videos of real students doing the activities and not just character/cartoon pictures with voices. It would be nice if the pictures moved."

QuaverEd Response to Comment 1:

Thank you for taking time to review our materials and for your constructive comment.

We think adding interactive PE physical skills videos is a fantastic idea! We have created one mock up quickly to show what we could do. We are currently working with PE teachers and experts in Texas and Tennessee to plan, film, and produce 83 videos so teachers can have the option to choose pictures or videos of the skills.

To access the sample video:

First, log in to quavered.com

Username: QuaverHealthTEA2, password: review2022

Then, open this link for an example of Overhand Throw:

https://users.quavered.com/lessonplanpresenter/?lpGuid=rid_3933076&rand=1636372898053

We are also planning to incorporate more movement videos throughout the curriculum and will submit them to TEA for review when they are ready.

Comment 2:

"The content from this publisher is generally consistent with the standards embodied in the 4th and 5th grade TEKS for reproductive and sexual health and TEC 28.004.

With the new opt-in laws for sexuality instruction (HB 1525), all students will need written permission from their parents to participate. Suggest including that information and sample communications in the Lesson Plan.

Add "parent" to align with TEKS- (needs to be across curriculum) Practice discussing puberty questions with a parent or trusted adult.

Fetal development (as included in TEKS)- Suggest adding a heartbeat can be detected as early as 3-4 weeks. Age to survive outside the womb is 22-24 weeks.

Starting ages- 8-14 for females and 10-16 for males- is not accurate. American Academy of Pediatrics gives 8-12 for females and 9-14 for males.

Myth Buster Activity- 1. Only people in love and married can get pregnant. – This question is inappropriate given the biological information shared- crosses into sexual intercourse and relationships without context and information to support. 2. Only adults can have babies. Similar concern to #1. Lesson Plans answer that 8-14 years can have babies- again misses instruction and content on sex and relationships.

Suggest having available separate lessons for males and females- as some schools teach them separately."

QuaverEd Response to Comment 2:

Thank you for taking time to review our materials and for your detailed comments.

1. **Opt-in Laws:** QuaverEd will provide sample letters in both English and Spanish for teachers to use for communicating the content families can expect their children to learn throughout the year, starting with a general overview of the curriculum themes. These will be organized by module and lesson band.

QuaverHealth•PE covers essential and sensitive topics including human sexuality (puberty, reproduction, and fertilization). QuaverEd will provide both a beginning of the year sample letter and a sample letter to obtain consent prior to presenting sensitive content. These will be found in the Instructional Guides in the Teacher Dashboard as well as in the Worksheets section for each relevant lesson.

Please note: It is the responsibility of each district to comply with all local requirements. QuaverEd will provide sample letters, which are intended to be used as templates. The sample letters as-written may not address the unique needs of your school district, but they can be amended, changed, and re-worded based on unique needs and requirements for each district. Please consult all local rules, statutes, and requirements and amend the letters accordingly to ensure compliance within your unique school district.

Beginning of the Year Sample Letter:

Dear SCHOOL NAME Families,

The Texas Essential Knowledge Skills (TEKS) for Health - Grade 5 requires the teaching of puberty and the reproductive system, including the physical changes, male and female reproductive systems, and the fertilization process. Lessons covering this topic will take place in MONTH of this academic year.

We will be using QuaverHealth•PE for our curriculum this year as we cover Health TEKS. The Puberty and My Reproductive System lessons will be taught from DATE to DATE and will address:

- 1. Defining puberty*
- 2. Discussing at least five physical changes that occur during puberty*
- 3. Practicing discussing puberty questions with a trusted adult*
- 4. Comparing and contrasting the male and female reproductive systems*
- 5. Summarizing the fertilization process*
- 6. Discussing myths surrounding reproduction*

A more detailed letter will come 14 days before the lessons on Puberty and My Reproductive System begin. In accordance with state law, you are welcome to review a copy of the curriculum and lessons provided. QuaverHealth•PE is a fully digital curriculum. At your request, I will send a link containing all the materials for Puberty and My Reproductive System.

*Texas state law requires you to grant written permission for your student's participation in any lessons, like these, involving human sexuality. **Please complete this form and return it to me by DATE.** If you do not complete the form, your student will not be joining our class for these lessons and will not be subject to any adverse consequences. Should you wish to file a grievance related to this process, please be affirmed of your right to do so based on Section 7.057 of TX House Bill 1525.*

I look forward to an exciting and rewarding year with you and your student.

*Thank you,
NAME*

14 days prior to instruction Sample Letter:

Dear SCHOOL NAME Families,

The Texas Essential Knowledge Skills (TEKS) for Health - Grade 5 requires the teaching of puberty and the reproductive system. Lessons covering this topic will begin in 14 school days, on DATE of this academic year. The purpose of these lessons is to help students learn about the reproductive system and its impact on personal health and to help students learn about their changing bodies.

In these lessons, we will introduce and discuss the following:

- 1. Defining puberty*
- 2. Discussing at least five physical changes that occur during puberty*
- 3. Practicing discussing puberty questions with a trusted adult*
- 4. Comparing and contrasting the male and female reproductive systems*
- 5. Summarizing the fertilization process*
- 6. Discussing myths surrounding reproduction*

Keywords we will introduce and discuss: puberty, physical changes, trusted adults, reproduction, reproductive system, and fertilization.

*You will need to provide written permission for your student to receive instruction covering puberty and the reproductive system. **If you wish for your student to receive this instruction, please indicate below and return by DATE.***

We are using QuaverHealth•PE to teach Health TEKS. Because this curriculum is online, I can send a link to the lessons we will be learning titled, "Puberty and My Reproductive System. Please indicate below if you would like to receive this link and look over the lessons your student is eligible to study.

*Thank you,
NAME*

Please indicate your preference, sign, and return to me by DATE:

___ I consent to my student, _____, participating in the Puberty and My Reproductive System lessons on DATE to DATE.

___ I do not consent to my student, _____, participating in the Puberty and My Reproductive System lessons on DATE to DATE. Please remove them from the classroom during this time.

_ I would like to view the content covered in the Puberty and My Reproductive System lessons. Please provide a link for me to review at my email address: _____

I understand the material I receive is protected by copyright, and I will not share or forward the lessons I receive.

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2. **“Parent or Trusted Adult”**: We will add "parent or another trusted adult" throughout the curriculum to screen activities when possible and Teacher Notes where a parent is not already mentioned, such as the objective quoted from the Puberty lesson.

To access the new content:

First, log in to quavered.com

Username: QuaverHealthTEA2, password: review2022

Then, open the links for the following examples:

Example 1: We have added “Parent or” to the “Trusted Adult” icon on the top right of the “What Influences Mateo?” screen activity:

<https://users.quavered.com/lpphost.aspx?lpGuid=6c9a8ca6-357c-4c65-90c6-a0b1c341b6ee&slideGUID=e012dd60-ea84-47d4-993f-98271f1dea8a>

Example 2: In “Keys to Online Safety” screen activity, we added the following bullet to the Teacher Notes: *“Select the Play button to listen to Officer Levon. Tell students that parents or another trusted adult are crucial for helping them navigate online or digital situations because those adults can help determine what is safe and what is*

not.”<https://users.quavered.com/lpphost.aspx?lpGuid=661df868-df2b-40b0-b271-06be4b122607&slideGUID=25168c49-b5f1-4716-920f-1d2cbb5ec66d>

3. **Fetal Development**: We have added "Heartbeat begins at 3-4 weeks" to the First Trimester pop up and notes in "How Babies are Made" screen activity.

To access the new content:

First, log in to quavered.com

Username: QuaverHealthTEA2, password: review2022

Then, open this link:

<https://users.quavered.com/lessonplanpresenter/?lpGuid=c62af183-2f69-47f1-a618-733cacc38ed7&slideGUID=626318a5-f6d7-4c6e-b36c-86f312eff6e6>

We have also added the following notes to the "My Amazing Body" screen activity:

<https://users.quavered.com/lessonplanpresenter/?lpGuid=c62af183-2f69-47f1-a618-733cacc38ed7&slideGUID=626318a5-f6d7-4c6e-b36c-86f312eff6e6> and, after consulting with medical professionals, have modified this teacher note to read: "Full-term: the baby is considered full-term at 39 weeks, though it can survive without intervention outside the womb depending on lung development at about 36 weeks and with medical intervention as early as 24 weeks." for both screens as well.

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4. **Puberty Starting Ages:** We have submitted corrections for this in audio for this screen and the teacher notes. Dr. Johnson now says: "For females, puberty can start from age 8 - 12, for males, puberty can start from age 9 -14."

To access the new content:

First, log in to quavered.com

Username: QuaverHealthTEA2, password: review2022

Then, open this link:

<https://users.quavered.com/lessonplanpresenter/?lpGuid=d20ce5b4-a8b2-431b-a6e5-0e313a54ca4d&slideGUID=1629ad06-895c-430d-b54b-d00afe32c770>

5. **“Mythbuster”:** We have removed this screen activity from the curriculum.
6. **Separating into male and female lessons:** The TEKS do not delineate between males and females for sexual education instruction. Schools and teachers are welcome to create custom lessons in accordance with their teacher guidelines using our Resource Manager, found in the Teacher Dashboard.