



Medicine Safety Youth Educators Pilot Program Final Report

Overview

(Provide an overview of how your coalition taught the OTC Medicine Safety program curriculum.)

We presented the OTC Medicine Safety information from the handouts given to us at CADCA Mid year and adding activities for the students. The activities such as class competitions and powerpoints helped the students maintain their focus on the information. Before we started each lesson we reminded the students to never take medicine without the supervision of a parent or trusted adult. As said in the CADCA Mid Year repetition will help the students remember the information. We gave the students a bracelet with our coalition name on it as an incentive for remembering the Poison Control Number, 800 222-1222.

Implementation Settings

(List the different settings you taught the curriculum and provide a brief description of each, include start and end dates and the duration of the delivery of each lesson.)

We presented two fifth grade classes of 26 students each. Every other week my sister and I would switch classes/teachers. Each lesson went from 10:45 to 11:30. We started the OTC lessons in the classrooms October 14th and continued having a lesson every Friday until November 18. One of the teachers made memorizing the names of the students easy for us by providing each student with a nametag while it was more difficult in the other classroom that had a new seating arrangement every week without nametags.

Audience Reached

Total people reached (adults and students not including the trainers)	58
Total students reached	52
Number of 5 th graders reached	52
Number of 6 th graders reached	0
Other demographics (i.e. gender, race/ethnicity, at-risk, high performing, urban, rural, etc.)	Rural , m & f, all races

Metrics

5th/6th Graders	
What was the average score on the pre-test? (percentage correct)	68%

What was the average score on the post-test? (percentage correct)	84%	
Youth Educators	Youth 1	Youth 2
Q1: Did you learn new information about OTC medicine safety because of your involvement in this pilot program?	Yes, I learned the poison control number, measuring medicine, and how to teach 5 th grade students.	In the OTC medicine safety program I learned the poison control number and you can call the number even when it isn't an emergency, the position of being a teacher, and that there is not wrong answer.
Q2: What skills or knowledge did you build while working on this program?	The main knowledge I gained was in presenting to youth. Maintaining the student's attention with certain activities and presenting strategies were skills I learned.	A skill I built was presenting to the 5th graders and doing my best to make sure I had their attention. Kids are very trendy, so during the program I related the main theme of the lesson to an everyday topic. This helped me because I would keep the students' attention.
Q3: Do you think high school students are ideal teachers to deliver these safety messages to 5 th and 6 th graders? Why?	Yes, I believe that high school students are best to teach the children because the kids can form certain connections to high school students more than with an adult. The students loved when we came in and we became role models	Yes, High school students are ideal teachers for the OTC program because it is like an older sibling or cousin delivering the safety messages. The students felt comfortable talking to us or asking questions, compared to an

	for some of the students.	adult. According to the teacher we were role models for the students.
Q4: Would you recommend the Medicine Safety Youth Educators Pilot Program to a friend?	Oh yes, I would recommend it because it provides younger students with important information and the teacher with a great, fun experience.	Definitely, being able to inform the students about the importance of OTCs and Prescription Medicine is powerful for them and their families. It was a fun experience to take the role of being a teacher.
Q5: Please share your thoughts about your experience with the pilot program.	The experience was great. The kids loved having us come in and had names and nicknames for us and gave us thank you letters at the end. I learned a good deal not only from the lesson plans but also from the children. However, there were a few problems my sister and I encountered in planning and presenting the lesson plans.	Overall it was a ton of fun and an amazing experience being able to teach the students about such an important topic. Each time we entered the classroom the students would smile and yell our names. At the last session the students gave us thank you cards and wanted to take pictures. As fun as it was, I learned what it was like to be a teacher. It is important to prepare beforehand, and there were some problems my brother and I had for not preparing the lesson.

Program Customization

(Did your coalition customize the training/curriculum for your community? If so, please include a summary. Are there creative ways your coalition brought the program to life i.e. ice breakers, activities, incentives?) After every presentation, we met with adult leader and discussed positive and negative things that happened and what we could do to improve our presenting strategies. Maintaining the students attention by involving them into the lesson plan as mentioned at CADCA Mid Year was one of the greatest methods. We made sure to involve the children as much as possible and every opportunity we called up kids to the board to write definitions, count surveys, pass out papers, and small activities. We asked lots of questions to be sure the information was being heard correctly. As incentives for learning the poison control number, we handed out bracelets with messages from our coalition. This really encouraged the students to learn the number and every time we see these kids throughout the community they remind us of the poison control number. Standing up at the front of the classroom and speaking directly from the paper tended to lose some of the student's attention, so we organized PowerPoint presentations with funny slides that were relatable to the kids. This really helped keep the flow of the OTC presentation while maintaining their attention. At the end of the program, we made an awards assembly with the certificates of participation and the kids were really glad and proud "graduate" from the OTC Medicine Safety program.

Successes

(What worked and why?) Having a co-facilitator made the program run nice and smooth. Once we were unable to have a co-facilitators and there were slight periods of awkward pauses and a bit of information left out of the presentation. Co-facilitation works best.

Challenges

(What didn't work well and why? How did you overcome the challenge?)

Having one facilitator didn't work well because there would be awkward pauses in between. Partner activities didn't work well because kids would stray off topic and it was difficult to regain their attention. It was difficult scheduling because 5 sessions were a lot to ask for from the teachers, facilitators, and principal. We were finally able to track down the Principal and approve the lessons right before we started.

Coalition Best Practices

(What advice do you have for coalitions interested in having youth educators teach this curriculum? Please list your tips.) 1) Kids will stray off topic, make sure to be able to guide them back on topic without putting them down. 2) Pre-read and have the lesson plan memorized to avoid forgetting anything. 3) Be organized to avoid losing materials. 4) There will be kids who raise their hand for every question, but choosing other students will help involve everyone and fluently teach. 5) Make sure to learn as many of the student's names to build a personal learning relationship with them.

Testimonials

(Please include quotes from 5th or 6th graders, teen trainers, parents, or coalition leadership about the program. Attach photos/videos in the email when sending the final report. Please note if photo release forms were signed by parents/guardians of youth photographed.)

Mrs. Short, one of the teachers repeatedly expressed her gratitude in us teaching her students and spoke of how much her students speak of the different things we teach throughout the week.

Mrs. Vicky Solomon, a coalition leadership learned from the program as well. After the third lesson, her grandson swallowed 27 tums. Mrs. Solomon, frantic, remembered learning the 24/7 Poison Control number at the OTC classes and didn't hesitate to call. The Poison Control advised her and her grandson was okay. She shared the story and it was impactful for the students.

All students took home the opt-out form for parents to decline if chosen. None of the parents declined the OTC Safety training.

At the end of the program, the students had made thank you cards for all of the facilitators. They were really nice and said wonderful things. Made us all feel good. We have many great photos of the process. We will attach a few.