



SungateKids SafeKids (SK2)

FAQs

Has the SK2 program been used before?

SungateKids launched the SK2 program in the fall of 2014. Since then, thousands of Colorado children have benefited from participating in our unique approach to addressing abuse prevention. Additionally, the SK2 script and our SK2 puppet “kids” were purchased and adapted from the nationally recognized organization, *Kids on the Block*, that has been researching, field testing and developing educational programs for children about health and social issues since 1977.

Does this program teach children about sex?

No. The SK2 curriculum teaches children about being safe. It helps children understand the dynamics of child abuse and empowers them to listen to their intuition, recognize abuse before it starts and identify safe adults to talk to about abuse. SK2’s approach to this important issue is age-appropriate and is not a “sex ed” program. Although the sexual abuse portion of the program references “private parts” it is explained in a matter of fact way without teaching vocabulary or new concepts to students.

Can parents participate in the SK2 program?

Yes! SK2 is a comprehensive abuse education and prevention program and we encourage parents to participate by attending the parent workshop we offer to all schools and organizations. In the workshop we discuss the program’s development and curriculum and help parents find ways to openly address this important topic with their children. Additionally, we provide parents with printed resources and follow-up activities to reinforce lessons learned.

What is the role of teachers/leaders/organization staff?

As part of our comprehensive program curriculum, SK2 provides training for educators/organization leaders and staff to help encourage comfortable discussion of child abuse. We provide resources and follow-up activities for educators and leaders and staff. Additionally, an important component of the program is to help children recognize and feel comfortable talking to safe adults -- like teachers, group leaders and staff -- about abuse.

Will the information in the SK2 program scare children?

No! The cornerstone of the SK2 program is our 45-minute interactive puppet program featuring the SK2 “kids.” The program is engaging, dynamic and age-appropriate. It is the only abuse education and prevention program in the country that features “kids” talking to kids about child abuse. In this way, the walls created by stigma and fear around this important issue are broken down and children are able to learn about and discuss abuse in a child-friendly, relatable way.

How old should a child be to participate in the SK2 program?

The SK2 program is geared to 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. Although we can be flexible with age range, we have found that this age group responds most favorably to the curriculum and is able to understand, absorb and appreciate the delivery of the content without issue.

How long is the SK2 program and how much does it cost?

SK2 interactive puppet program for students runs approximately 45 minutes. Our parent and educator/leader/staff trainings are about 30-45 minutes long. SK2 is a division of SungateKids, a non-profit child advocacy center that provides services and all programming, including the SK2 program, at NO COST.

What if children want more information or want to discuss the issues raised in the program in a more private setting.

After the SK2 puppet presentation, all children who participate in the program have an opportunity to talk one-on-one with highly trained SK2 staff presenters and ask any questions or discuss any issues. This is a unique opportunity to process the information learned during the program in a more comfortable way if necessary.