We All Have Mental Health

A mental health education program for grades 4-5 Based on material created by and copyright of the Anna Freud Centre





Part 1: What is Mental Health?







What is mental health?

- Mental health is about our feelings, thinking, emotions and moods.
- Mental health is important for a happy, healthy and productive life.









What is mental health?

- Just like we brush our teeth every day, we need to make sure our brains have the tools we need to be mentally healthy.
- Looking after our mental health is just as important as looking after our physical health.











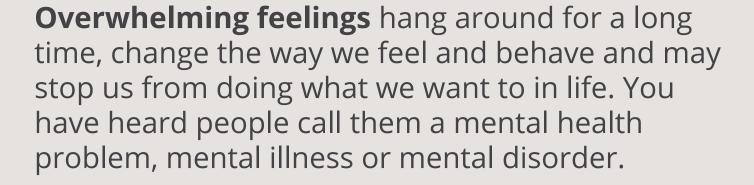
We all have mental health





Everyday feelings come and go and are a normal reaction to what is happening in our lives. They are always changing and don't usually hang around for too long.



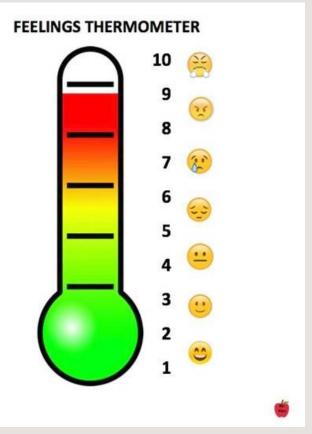






How do you feel today?













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Discussion How are the feelings that Sasha & André experiencing different?







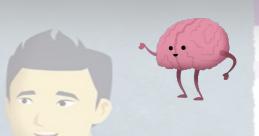


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• What is coping?



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Discussion What does Sasha do to manage her everyday feelings?







good mental health practices me time







Discussion What does André do

What does André do to manage his overwhelming feelings?







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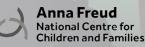
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Example ess





coping mechanisms talking to a friend and adult therapy





Overwhelming feelings can be difficult to admit or talk about.







Stigma A mark of shame associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person.









We all have mental health.









We all have mental health. *True*!









Our physical health is more important than our mental health.









Our physical health is more important than our mental health. *False!*









If I want to talk about my mental health I always have to ask a doctor.









If I want to talk about my mental health I always have to ask a doctor. *False!*









One way to manage our mental health is to talk about it with someone we trust.

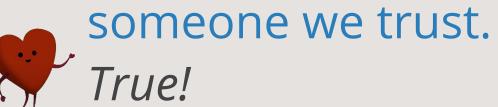








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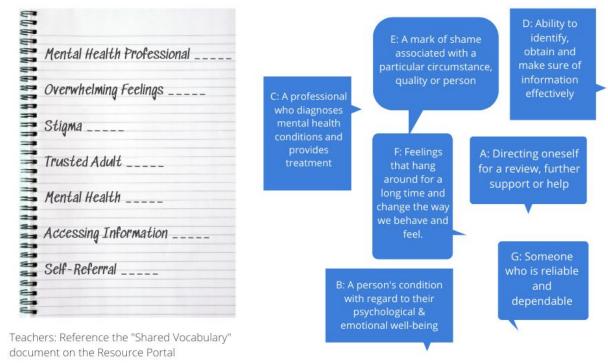






Important Vocabulary to Know

Choose the correct definition for the vocabulary terms below.











REMEMBER



- Mental health is balance: the ability to manage stress and lead a productive life.
- Mental health is just as important as physical health.
- Everyday feelings come and go, and are manageable.
- Overwhelming feelings are also normal, but you might need to talk to someone for help.















Good mental health is something everyone deserves.









What gets in the way of mental health?









What gets in the way of mental health? STRESS









Health problems can arise with **too much stress.** What are some examples?









Examples

- 1. Stomach hurts (aches)
- 2. Headaches
- 3. Body hurts
- 4. Mood changes
- 5. Tired
- 6. Trouble sleeping









How can you better manage stress and promote good mental health?





Self-care Nutrition Sleep Exercise Coping Skills





Nutrition

Eat 3 balanced meals a day.











Sleep

Get 8-10 hours a night.









Exercise

Exercise at least 2.5 hours per









Managing Stress

Pick 3 ways to manage stress & improve your mental health. Practice over the next week. Visit the "Teen Toolbox" at ErikasLighthouse.org to learn more about good mental health.



Be physically active



Get enough sleep



Talk to a trusted friend or adult



Listen to calming music



Write in a journal







Laugh!

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Hang out with friends

Read



Punch a pillow



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Coping Skills

Coping skills can help us manage life's challenges.









REMEMBER



- Everyone deserves good mental health.
- Stress is normal, but too much increases the risk for health problems, like depression.
- Small improvements in nutrition, sleep, exercise and coping skills can help us to better manage stress and achieve mental health.







60-second Mindfulness

Mindfulness: the practice of being aware of your thoughts & feelings and being fully present in the moment

When we get overwhelmed it is usually because our minds start to think about past setbacks or worry about future challenges. If we live in the present moment we can begin to free ourselves of those negative thoughts.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. Close your eyes
- 2. Get comfortable
- 3. Slowly Inhale 1, Exhale 2, Inhale 3, counting to 10
- 4. Let go of tension in shoulders, arms, hands, legs & feet
- 5. Slowly Inhale 1, Exhale 2, Inhale 3, counting to 10
- 6. Open your eyes & ask youself, "how do I feel?"

Mindfulness is something you can do for just a few minutes when you need it, but it is best to practice a few minutes each day to train the brain to become more present and aware. Be sure to check out the Teen Toolbox on erikaslighthouse.org for more.











Part 3: Helping Yourself or A Friend







If you are concerned about yourself or a friend, talk to a Trusted Adult - someone who is reliable and dependable.







Who are they?

Identify your Trusted Adults at:





HOME



COMMUNITY

SCHOOL





Sometimes people feel ashamed to ask for help. How do you ask for help?

Tell a Trusted Adult:

- How you Feel
- What you've **Tried**
- What they can do to **Help**





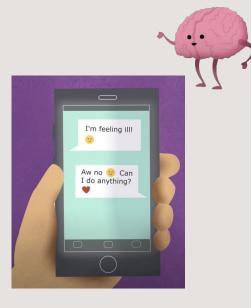


Sometimes people feel ashamed to ask for help. How do help a friend?

Tell them:

- I've **noticed** changes in you.
- I care for you.
- How can I **help** you?

Be a good friend by listening, showing you care and helping them find help.









What other valid and reliable people, resources or information can you access to learn more about mental health and depression?







If you or a friend need help, talk to an adult or dial 911.

For help in our school, contact: LOCAL CONTACT NAME Email or Phone





If you or a friend need help, talk to an adult or dial 911.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

Crisis Text Line: Text "Listen" to 741741







Please complete a short survey:



For more information visit us online at **ErikasLighthouse.org**





