



Sexual Behaviors in Children: Guidelines for Parents

Preschool (ages 0-5 years)

Common	Uncommon*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sexual language relating to differences in body parts, bathroom talk, pregnancy, and birth ➤ Self-fondling at home and in public ➤ Showing and looking at private body parts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Discussion of sexual activity ➤ Sexual contact experience with other children ➤ Masturbation not responsive to redirection or limits ➤ Inserting objects in genital openings

School-Age (6-12 years)

Common	Uncommon*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Questions about menstruation, pregnancy sexual behavior ➤ “Experimenting” with same-age children, including kissing, fondling, exhibitionism, and role-playing ➤ Masturbation at home or other private places 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Discussion of explicit sexual acts ➤ Asking adults or peers to participate in explicit sexual acts

Adolescence (13-16 years)

Common	Uncommon*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Questions about decision-making, social relationships, and sexual customs ➤ Masturbation in private ➤ Experimenting between adolescents of the same age, including open-mouth kissing, fondling, and body rubbing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sexual interest in much younger children ➤ Aggression in touching others’ genitals ➤ Asking adults to participate in explicit sexual acts

Sources: 1) Child Welfare Information Gateway 2) StopItNow.org

Books for Parents (Teach your child to use proper scientific words to identify personal body parts)

- Understanding Your Child’s Sexual Behavior, by Toni Cavanaugh Johnson
- Childhood Sexuality: A Guide for Parents, by Gail Ryan and Joanne Blum
- A Very Touching Book: For Little People and Big People, by Jan Hindman
- From Diapers to Dating: A Parents Guide to Raising Sexually Healthy Children, by Debra Haffner

*** Questions call
1-888-773-8368**

Books for Children & Teens

The Children’s Book List for Parents, a list of age-appropriate books for children and teens to help them get through life’s challenges. Visit www.procarseatsafety.com/resources-for-parents.html



More information at
www.ProCarSeatSafety.com

