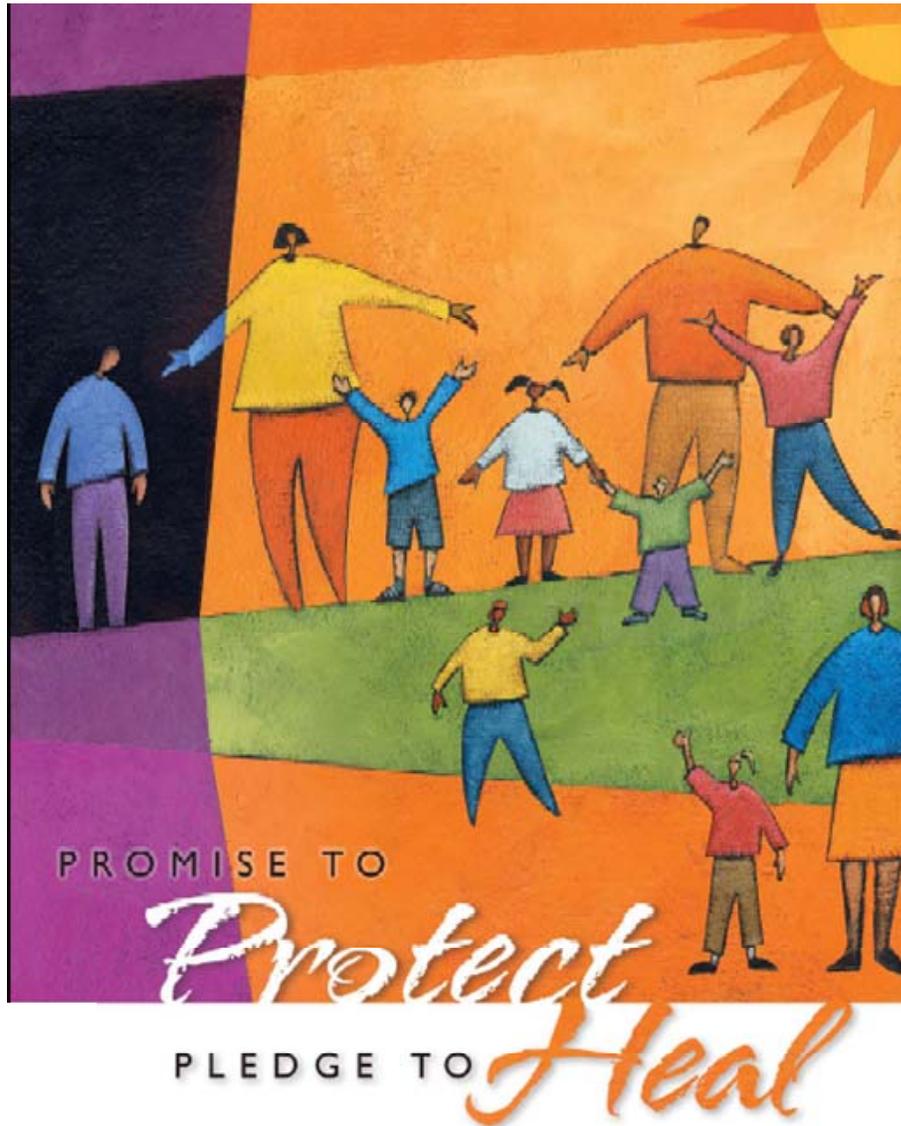




Diocese of Salt Lake City



Safe Environment Training:
Right Relationships

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Diocese of Salt Lake City Safe Environment Program

Introduction to Safe Environment Training: *Right Relationships*

When the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops adopted the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* on June 4, 2002, they pledged to ensure that a safe environment would be provided to all the Catholic community, but especially our children and youth, as we gather together to worship, study, and celebrate. Article 12 of the *Charter* requires dioceses to establish safe environment programs and cooperate with parents, civil authorities, educators, and community organizations to provide education and training for children, youth, and others about ways to make and maintain a safe environment for children.

In 2005, the Bishops clarified that the commitment to train our children and youth exceeds simply “making available” training materials for parents to use in their homes. It was their intent that each bishop schedule and follow through on well-designed programs to educate children and youth in and assist them in avoiding risks they may face.

Beginning school year 2008-2009, the Diocese of Salt Lake City will be introducing *Right Relationships* as part of the Catholic School and Religious Education Program curriculum to comply with the *Charter’s* requirement. The curriculum was designed with two goals in mind: to promote and model safe environment principles and to help prevent abuse by teaching our children about right relationships and what to do when something is not right. Lesson plans are included and may be reproduced locally.

The program’s age-appropriate concepts of right relationships: Knowing the Rules; Communication; Respect and Trust; Boundaries; and Unconditional Love, Forgiveness, and Reconciliation will be integrated into existing curriculum to help students understand the principles of healthy relationships and what to do when a relationship is not healthy.

Overview

- These units are designed to be used either as a **supplement** to your textbook series or as a **stand alone** lesson plan.
- The units reinforce **just and moral conduct** in light of our Catholic teaching and in the context of a discussion of God’s rules, Church precepts and tradition, and the establishment of classroom rules.
- The units emphasize **prevention**. If children are clear about the rules of right relationships, they will learn to recognize behavior in relationships that is not healthy and to seek help from trusted adults if they are ever involved in an unhealthy relationship.
- Because of the nature of the material, much of the text has been scripted. Although it is recognized that individual situations may warrant some variation, teachers are encouraged to keep to the script as closely as possible, especially in the lessons labeled “**Core**”.
- By establishing clear expectations during the first class period, the catechist or teacher promotes and **fosters compliance** with safe environment.
- Creating an atmosphere of **open communication** encourages children to offer input into the development of classroom rules, gain confidence in communicating

their feelings, and seek help when feeling uncomfortable when rules are being broken.

- Each unit has a suggested grade range for presenting the lesson material and activities. However, teachers may use the material from another grade level if they believe it is appropriate in conveying the lesson to their students.
- “Guidelines for Inserting *Right Relationships* into the School Curriculum” are included to assist in including the specific *Right Relationship* lesson into the appropriate standard and grade level of the School Curriculum.
- The Grid for Parish Youth Ministry illustrates how the *Right Relationships* lessons may be incorporated into the eight main components of youth ministry, as outlined in the 1997 USCCB document, *Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry*.

Using This Material with Your Textbook Series

- Review the appropriate unit of your text. At a minimum, use the lesson content labeled “Core” from the *Right Relationships* curriculum to replace the lesson ideas in the textbook.
- The unit “Know the Rules” is especially appropriate for the first day of class when rules are being put in place for the orderly conduct of the class.
- You may also elect to use the activities and discussion ideas from the lesson in place of the activities suggested in your text.

Using This Material Without a Textbook Series

- Use the activities and discussion ideas from the *Right Relationships* curriculum to teach safe environment concepts.
- At a minimum, use the lesson content labeled “Core” to replace or supplement any local curriculum you have developed for local use.

Reporting of Training

Annually, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops requires each diocese to report the number of children trained in safe environment. The report must include all children trained at our Catholic schools as well as parish-based Religious Education and Youth programs.

Catholic School Principals, Directors of Religious Education, and Youth Directors are to complete the attached Children’s Safe Environment Training Report and submit the completed form to the Diocesan Office of Safe Environment not later than April 30th each year. It may be useful to have individual teachers report their classroom data on the *Right Relationships* Training Worksheet and consolidate the information on the Children’s Training Report. However, only the Children’s Safe Environment Training Report is submitted to the Diocese.

The report includes the number of children enrolled in school/religious education and the number of children who have received the safe environment training. Please **do not agonize** over the numbers. The number of children enrolled will change throughout the course of the year and it is likely that some children will be absent when a specific *Right Relationship* unit is taught. If the safe environment lessons are incorporated into your

curriculum and presented throughout the school year, the reported number of children trained would be the same as the reported number of children enrolled.

“Opting Out”

Parents have the right to provide this training to their children. Parents who choose not to have their children participate in the Diocesan training should complete the “Opt Out” form and return it to their Principal/Director of Religious Education. If the parents decline to sign the form, the Principal/Director of Religious Education should annotate the form to that effect. Copies of the curriculum should be provided to these parents for their use at home. Arrangements for students opting out of the training should be made by the individual schools/religious education programs. The number of students whose parents opt out of the training should be included in the Children’s Safe Environment Training Report.

Attachments:

- a. Children’s Safe Environment Training Report
- b. *Right Relationships* Training Worksheet
- c. “Opt Out” Form (English/Spanish)
- d. Guidelines for Inserting *Right Relationships* into the School Curriculum
- e. *Right Relationships* Grid for Parish Youth Ministry



**Diocese of Salt Lake City
Safe Environment Program
Children's Safe Environment Training Report**

I certify that the Diocese of Salt Lake City Safe Environment Training Program *Right Relationships* has been presented to the students attending

_____ during SY_____.
Name of School/Parish

Number of students enrolled: _____

Number of students trained: _____

Number of students whose parents opted out of the training and were provided with the curriculum: _____

Signature of Principal/local DRE/Date

This report is due to the Diocesan Office of Safe Environment by April 30 each year.



Diocese of Salt Lake City
Safe Environment Program
Right Relationships Training Worksheet

Please complete the following for each class:

Name of Parish/School: _____

Grade: _____

Name of Teacher: _____

Number of Students Enrolled: _____

Number of Students Attending Training: _____

Number of Students Whose Parents Opted Out of the Training and Were
Provided Copies of the Curriculum: _____

(*Signature of teacher/date*)



**Diocese of Salt Lake City
Office of Safe Environment
“Opt Out” Form**

The Diocese of Salt Lake City offers Safe Environment training to children. Some parents/guardians may prefer to provide this training to their children. By completing this form, parents/guardians choose for their child(ren) NOT to participate in the Diocesan training. This election remains in effect until revoked by the parent. This form is retained by the local Director of Safe Environment.

Child’s Full Name: _____

School/Religious Education Program: _____

Parish/School/Organization: _____

Grade/Class: _____

Please verify by initialing the following statements:

_____ **Safe Environment Training was offered to my child.**

_____ **It is my choice that my child not participate in the program.**

_____ **I have received materials from the parish, school or program to use to instruct my child on this topic.**

Name of Parent or Guardian: _____
(Please print clearly)

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Please return signed form to:

Name/Title: _____

Address: _____

**Diócesis de Salt Lake City
Oficina de Ambiente Seguro
Formulario de “Opción de Declinar”**

La Diócesis de Salt Lake City ofrece entrenamiento a los niños sobre Ambiente Seguro. Algunos padres/guardianes prefieren ofrecer este entrenamiento a sus niños ellos mismos. Al completar este formulario, los padres/guardianes escogen que su(s) hijo(s) NO participe(n) en el entrenamiento Diocesano. Esta elección permanece en efecto hasta que sea revocada por el padre de familia. Este formulario lo retiene el Director local de Ambiente Seguro.

Nombre Completo del Niño: _____

Escuela/ Programa de Educación Religiosa: _____

Parroquia/Escuela/Organización: _____

Grado/Clase: _____

Por favor verifique las siguientes declaraciones con sus iniciales:

_____ **El Programa de Ambiente Seguro fue ofrecido a mi hijo.**

_____ **Es mi elección que mi hijo no participe en el programa.**

_____ **He recibido materiales de la parroquia, escuela o programa que puedo usar para instruir a mi hijo sobre este tema.**

Nombre del Padre/Guardián:

Por favor imprima nombre claramente)

Firma _____ **Fecha:** _____

Por favor devuelva el formulario firmado a:

Nombre/Título: _____

Dirección: _____

Guidelines for Inserting *Right Relationships* into the School Curriculum

I. *Right Relationships: Knowing the Rules*

Why Do We Have Rules?
 What Are God's Rules/The Rules of God's Church?
 Establishment of Classroom Rules
 Remembering the Rules
The Rules for Right Relationships (Core)

K-3	4-8	9-12
As taught the first week of school	As taught the first week of school	As taught the first week of school

II. *Right Relationships: Rules and Boundaries*

God Created Human Beings in His Image
 God Made Us and Wants Us to Be Safe
Knowing the Rules and Boundaries of Right Relationships (Core)

K-3	4-8	9-12
Religion Standard 1,4,6,10	Religion Standard 1,4,6,10	Health Standard 1,2,3,4,5,6
Health Standard 1,2,3,4,5	Health Standard 1,2,3,5	Chaste Living
Loyola Unit 1	Loyola Unit 1	Framework I & VI
RCL Units 2,3	RCL Unit 2	
Sadlier Units 2,4	Sadlier Unit 3	

III. *Right Relationships: Respect and Trust*

God Created Human Beings in His Image
 Treat Everyone with Respect
Relationships Are Built on Trust (Core)
Consequences (Core)

K-3	4-8	9-12
Religion Standard 4,6	Religion Standard 4,6	Chaste Living
Health Standard 1,3	Health Standard 1,3	Framework I & VI
Loyola Units 1,2,4,5	Loyola Units 3,5	
RCL Units 2,8,13,14,15,20	RCL Units 2,3,8,13,14,15,20	
Sadlier Units 3,4	Sadlier Unit 1	

IV. *Right Relationships: Communication*

God Made People to Need Each Other
God Gave Parents and Other Trusted Adults to Care for Us (Core)
 God Gave Humans Speech so We Can Communicate
Families: Places We Can Communicate (Core)
Secrets and Surprises (Core)

K-3	4-8	9-12
Religion Standard 4,6,10,11	Religion Standard 4,6,10,11	Health Standard 1,2,4,6
Health Standard 1,2,3,5	Health Standard 1,2,3,5	Chaste Living
Loyola Unit 5	Loyola Unit 5	Framework I & VI
RCL Unit 3	RCL Unit 3	
Sadlier Units 2,3	Sadlier Units 1,3,4	

V. *Right Relationships: Unconditional Love, Forgiveness, and Reconciliation*

God Loves Us Unconditionally (Core)

How Do We Show Love to One Another? (Core)

God Forgives Us and Asks Us to Forgive (Core)

K-3	4-8	9-12
Religion Standard 1,3,4,6	Religion Standard 1,3,4,6	Health Standard 1
Health Standard 2,3,4,5	Health Standard 2,3,4,5	Chaste Living
Loyola Unit 2	Loyola Unit 2	Framework I & VI
RCL Unit 2	RCL Unit 2	
Sadlier Units 1,2,3,4	Sadlier Units 3,4	

Right Relationships Grid for Parish Youth Ministry

The Goals of Youth Ministry Are:

- 1) To empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today.
- 2) To draw young people to responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of the Catholic faith community.
- 3) To foster the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person.

On June 4, 2002, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops adopted the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. The Diocese of Salt Lake City developed the *Right Relationships* curriculum to comply with the Charter's requirement. The curriculum was designed with two goals in mind:

- 1) To promote and model safe environment principles
- 2) To help prevent abuse by teaching our children about right relationships and what to do when something is not right.

This Grid suggests where these goals overlap and how parish youth ministry programs may infuse the Safe Environment components into their usual catechetics/activities.

	Know the Rules	Rules and Boundaries	Respect and Trust	Communication	Unconditional Love, Forgiveness, and Reconciliation
Advocacy		X	X	X	X
Catechesis	X	X			X
Community Life	X	X	X	X	
Evangelization				X	X
Justice and Service		X	X		X
Leadership Development	X		X	X	
Pastoral Care	X	X	X	X	X
Praise and Worship			X	X	