

LESSON FOCUS:
World AIDS Day - 1st December

Key stage	3 / 4 (Year 9 or 10)
Key concepts	1.2a, b
Key processes	2.1a, 2.2b, 2.2d 2.3a, 2.3b
Range and content	a, e
Curriculum opportunities	

PLTS:

FUNCTIONAL SKILLS:

RESOURCES:

- Red 'World AIDS Day' ribbon
- Resource A - PowerPoint
- Red/green cards or mini whiteboards
- Resource B - Myths and the truth
- Resource C - Facts about HIV and AIDS
- Poster paper, pens, pencils

OBJECTIVES:

- To know what World AIDS Day is and what it aims to achieve.
- To give reasons why we need to raise awareness of HIV and AIDS.

OUTCOMES:

- Students will produce a poster to raise awareness of HIV and AIDS, using one or more facts they have learnt in the lesson.
- Some will create a poster to inform others of World AIDS Day.

Overview

This lesson allows students to reflect upon different ideas, opinions and beliefs while learning about and raising awareness of HIV and AIDS. The lesson should help them further understand their roles as citizens in raising awareness on the behalf of others. Through this, they should feel increasingly confident to take informed and responsible action.

In this lesson students will be made aware of World AIDS Day. There is a focus on facts and myths about HIV and AIDS. Using their knowledge of HIV and AIDS, and awareness that not all people know or respond to information about HIV and AIDS, students create a poster to inform others either of World AIDS Day or about HIV and AIDS.

World AIDS Day – 1st December

Keywords

HIV, AIDS, raising awareness, facts, myths

Introduction (5 minutes)

Resources:

- Red 'World AIDS Day' ribbon

Instructions:

- Show students a red AIDS awareness ribbon (you may be wearing one).
- Ask them:
 - Do they know what it is?
 - What do they know about HIV/AIDS?
 - Do they know about the 1st December?
 - Why might somebody wear a ribbon?
- This is also an opportunity to begin to dispel any myths.

Starter (10 minutes)

Resources:

- Resource A - PowerPoint
- Red/green cards or mini whiteboards

Instructions:

- Show the definitions of HIV and AIDS on slide 3 of the PowerPoint. Students should understand that the two are different things, but closely linked.
- Display the True or False starter on slide 4 of the PowerPoint. Students can put their hands up to answer, hold up red/green cards or write the answer on a whiteboard to hold up.
- Notes about false statements:
 - HIV can be passed on through infected blood, semen, vaginal fluids, rectal secretions or breast milk. The most common ways HIV is passed on are: sex without a condom; sharing infected needles, syringes or other injecting drug equipment.
 - With the right medical help, 99% of HIV-positive women give birth to healthy babies without passing on HIV.
 - There is no cure, but treatment can keep the virus under control and the immune system healthy. People on HIV treatment can live a healthy, active life, although some may experience side effects from the treatment. If HIV is diagnosed late, treatment is likely to be less effective.
- This activity should make students more aware of the facts and also get them thinking about why it is important to raise awareness of HIV and AIDS.

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Main (40 minutes)

Resources:

- Resource A - PowerPoint
- Resource B - Myths and the truth (optional)
- Resource C - Facts about HIV and AIDS (print these out and stick them around the classroom before the lesson)
- Poster paper, pens, pencils, etc.

Instructions:

Activity 1 (10 minutes)

- Show some of the myths surrounding HIV (slide 5 of the PowerPoint). Discuss why they are myths and reveal the facts.
- Ask students to think about why it is important that we raise awareness about HIV and AIDS.
- Ask students to fill in the last column of the table (e.g. The sooner someone gets diagnosed, the more likely it is that their treatment will be effective / they will have more chance of living longer). This can be done as a class with you filling in the grid on the IWB, or students can be given their own grid to fill out (Resource B), depending on time and ability.
- It is likely that there will be a range of responses based on ability - push gifted and talented students to think about the wider consequences of these myths (e.g. What problems can occur as a result of people believing that only gay men can get HIV?)

Activity 2 (30 minutes)

- Point out the facts about HIV and AIDS which are displayed around the room (Resource C).
- Ask students: Why do we need to raise awareness about HIV?
- Ask students to move around the classroom and read the facts. They should then stand by the one that they think best answers this question.
- Take feedback from a range of students (e.g. 'I think we need to raise awareness of HIV because ... over a quarter of people in the UK don't know that they are infected').
- Ask students to return to their seats.
- Ask them to use their chosen fact (or a myth from the table) to make a poster to raise awareness of HIV. For example, they may create a poster to inform people that over a quarter of people in the UK don't know that they are infected. They do not necessarily have to include the myth or fact on their poster, but it should be the 'driving force' behind it. They might want to add facts that they have learned this lesson (e.g. 'You can now get tested for HIV using a saliva sample' which might encourage more people to get tested).
- Ask students to use colour and images as well as facts and information.
- To differentiate, some students may feel more comfortable creating a poster about World AIDS Day. They can use a number of facts about HIV, AIDS and World AIDS Day.
- Posters could be displayed around school on/around December 1st.

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Plenary (5 minutes)

Resources:

- None

Instructions:

- Go around the class. One student gives a reason why it is important to raise awareness of HIV. The next student then gives an example of something you could do to raise awareness, e.g. display posters, wear a red ribbon, etc.
- Students can help to choose where their poster will be best displayed and could be encouraged to wear a red ribbon on World AIDS Day.

Recommended links

- www.hivaware.org.uk/be-aware/common-myths.php
- www.hivaware.org.uk/be-aware/hiv-statistics.php
- www.worldaidsday.org/about-hiv.php

RESOURCE B - Myths and the truth

Myth	Truth	We need to raise awareness because...
If you get HIV you'll die soon.	For someone diagnosed with HIV today at 35, life expectancy is over 72.	
People living with HIV have to take lots of pills every day to stay healthy.	The most common treatment today for someone diagnosed with HIV early is one or two pills a day.	
Only gay men get HIV.	HIV can affect anyone and there are many heterosexuals living with HIV in the UK.	
Your partner would automatically tell you if they had HIV.	There is a good chance they might not - either because they are worried to tell you or because they don't know they have it!	
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There are more than 90,000
people living with HIV in the UK.

Over a quarter of people with HIV
in the UK don't know they are
infected.

Worldwide, 2.6 million people
were newly infected with HIV
in 2009.

In some parts of the world (particularly within sub-Saharan Africa) 15-28% of the population are living with HIV.

Half of adults with HIV were diagnosed at a late stage of infection (after the point at which treatment should have begun).

With the right medical help, 99% of HIV-positive women give birth to healthy babies without passing on HIV.