

Guidelines for K-12 Instruction on Adoption

The following guidelines may be followed in implementing Family Life curriculum to include the process of adoption and its benefits.

The Family Life Education program developed locally may be comprehensive and sequential and include the following content areas related to adoption:

K-8

- a. Definition and types of adoption
- b. Positive nature of family structure created by adoption and reasons families choose to adopt
- c. Factors involved in adoption process and impact of adoption
- d. Understanding of positive adoption language and impact of peer understanding on children who were adopted
- e. Comprehending decision making process of women making plans to adopt
- f. Identify resource agencies available to assist families with adoption

9-12

- a. Describe steps involved in adoption process, both international and domestic, and how children of adoptive families process social, emotional and cultural influences
- b. Compare and contrast domestic infant adoption and domestic foster care adoption
- c. Analyze stereotypical language surrounding adoption and implement positive adoption language
- d. Examine benefits of choosing adoption and identify common misconceptions associated with adoption
- e. Analyze outcomes for children raised from infancy in a stable home and educational/financial outcomes and goal accomplishments for teens who choose adoption
- f. Examine decision making process of a teen choosing adoption and steps of adoption for prospective adoptive families
- g. Research local, state and national agencies providing adoption services
- h. Identify adoption laws regarding the surrender and termination of parental rights in the state of Tennessee