



To a caring adult;

The Taylor the Turtle programme is about to be introduced to the classroom. This is a sexual abuse prevention programme that focuses on human rights language and emotional literacy rather than frightening scenarios like good touch/bad touch and stranger danger.

By human rights language we mean that the students will learn how to articulate their needs in health and safety in an assertive, non aggressive, clear way. And by the term 'emotional literacy' we are referring to the ability to connect our bodies to our feelings and our feelings to our expression. Studies have found that children who are well connected to their bodies and can express their needs have a lower chance of being sexually abused, and if they have been they are more willing to share that experience with a caring adult.

The Taylor the Turtle programme contributes to a foundation of healthy relationship skills, safety and self esteem. There are six tenets to the programme:

- *My body belongs to me!!*
- *I have the right to a healthy body!!*
- *I have the right to a safe body!!*
- *I have the right to a safe school!!*
- *I have the right to a safe community!!*
- *I have the right to talk to someone when I don't feel safe!!*

This programme was developed, in house, by the Sexual Assault Centre of Brant. There is opportunity for their community worker to come into the classroom. The students will not be exposed to discussions of sexual assault. The curriculum is to explore the six themes in a fun, safe way via games, discussions, and crafts. Anatomy will be briefly identified using proper terminology but will be named as 'bathing suit parts' for discussions. This only occurs in the theme, "I have the right to a safe body".

The students will be bringing home a pamphlet, colouring pages, and an information sheet for you on suggestions on how to incorporate the themes of the programme into your parenting style.

For further information please see www.taylorsrights.ca.

If you have any questions or require more resources please contact the Sexual Assault Centre via email or telephone:

carrie@sacbrant.ca or 519.751.1164 Ext. 206

The programme is endorsed by: Brantford Police Services, Grand Erie District School Board, Woodview Children's Mental Health and Autism Services, Nova Vita Domestic Violence Prevention Services, St Leonard's, Ganohkwasra Family Assault Support Services, and Victim Services.