

Name _____ Class _____

DEATH EDUCATION ASSESSMENT

Directions: Circle the one response that best describes your feelings.

1. What was your first personal involvement with death?

A. Grandparent or great-grandparent	E. Friend or acquaintance
B. Parent	F. Public figure
C. Brother or sister	G. Animal
D. Other family member	
2. When you were a child, which was the usual way death was talked about in your family?
 - A. Openly
 - B. With some discomfort
 - C. Only when necessary and children were not included
 - D. It was a subject we were not allowed to discuss
 - E. My family never discussed death
3. Which of the following most influenced your attitude toward death?

A. Death of someone close to me	C. The beliefs of my religion
B. Reading about death	D. Television, radio, movies
4. Which best describes what death means to you?
 - A. The end: the final process of life.
 - B. The beginning of life after death; a transition, a new beginning.
 - C. A kind of endless sleep; rest and peace.
 - D. Termination of life but with survival of the spirit.
 - E. Termination of the life as it now is; but a return to the original elements.
5. How often have you been in a situation in which you seriously thought you might die?
 - A. Many times
 - B. Once or twice
 - C. Never
6. What aspect of death is the most distasteful to you?

A. No more fun activities.	C. The grief it causes family and friends.
B. What happens to the body after death.	D. It may be painful.
7. If your doctor knew you were going to die from a serious disease, would you want to know?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
 - C. It would depend on the circumstances.
8. If, or when you are married, would you like to live longer than your spouse? Why?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
 - C. Undecided
9. How important are funerals for the survivors?

A. Extremely important	D. Not very important
B. Somewhat important	E. Not important at all
C. I do not know	
10. After you die, what would you like done with your body?

A. Buried	C. Donated to a medical school
B. Cremated	D. I do not care
11. What kind of funeral would you prefer?
 - A. A formal, large funeral
 - B. A small funeral with relatives and close friends
 - C. I do not care
 - D. I do not want one
12. Have you ever seriously thought about this subject before?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

DEATH AND DYING-----INDIVIDUALIZED ACTIVITY
12 POINTS POSSIBLE

Name _____ Class _____

LEARNING ABOUT DEATH--TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Complete the following crossword puzzle using the terms listed below:

DEATH CERTIFICATE	DECEASED	AUTOPSY
MORTICIAN	EMBALMING	CREMATION
MEMORIAL SERVICE	FUNERAL	EULOGY
INTERMENT	MAUSOLEUM	VAULT
BEREAVEMENT	CALLING HOURS	WAKE
OBITUARY	TERMINALLY ILL	HOSPICE
CASKET		

CLUES ACROSS:

6. A legal document completed by the proper officials (doctor, funeral director) certifying the death.
9. The act of placing a casket and remains in the ground.
10. A protective concrete or metal enclosure in the ground into which the casket is lowered at burial.
12. One who has died.
14. Person who handles preparation of the body for burial.
15. Ceremony held in connection with the burial of the deceased person.
17. Reducing the body to ashes through the use of intense heat.
18. A speech given at funerals telling about the life of the deceased person.
19. An institution providing home-like care for the terminally ill person with counseling for the patient and family in coping with death.

ANSWERS DOWN:

1. Same as calling hours; a time when friends can come to see the body and express their sympathy and sorrow to the family.
2. A building constructed for housing a casket or caskets above the ground.
3. A service very similar to a funeral except that the body of the deceased is not present.
4. A padded, decoratively lined box in which the deceased person is placed.
5. Period of time after one dies when one feels their loss.
7. A person with an illness for which there is no hope for recovery.
8. Visitation with the family.
11. The written notice of a person's death, usually with a short biography.
13. The process of injecting the body with a preservation fluid to delay decomposition.
16. An examination of a dead body to determine the cause of death.

(Information is adapted from Indiana Consumer and Homemaking Curriculum Guide on Human Development. August, 1988, Unit 23)

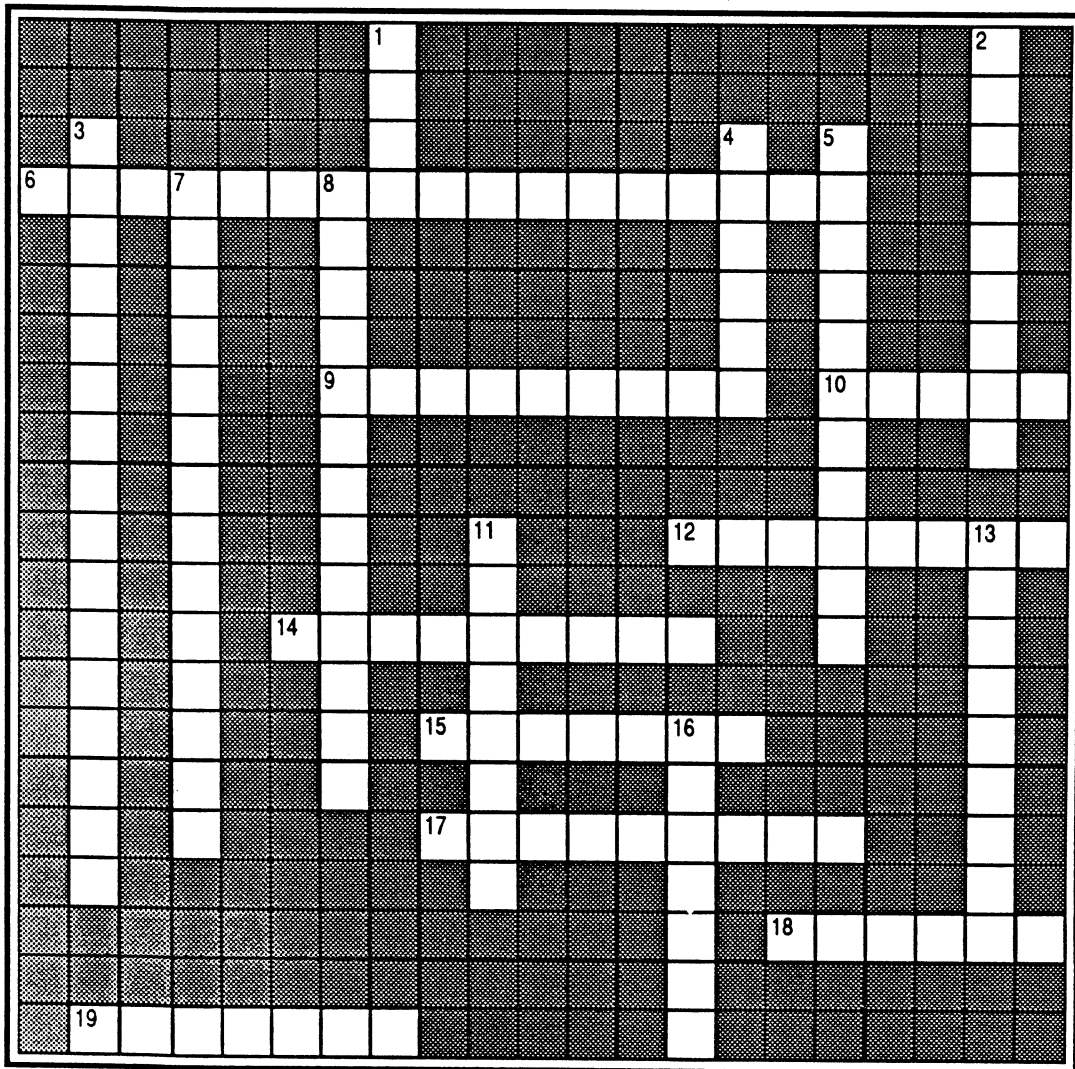
DEATH AND DYING-----INDIVIDUALIZED ACTIVITY
12 POINTS POSSIBLE

Name _____ Class _____

LEARNING ABOUT DEATH--TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Complete the crossword puzzle using the clues and words on the preceding page.



LEARNING ABOUT DEATH, TERMS AND DEFINITIONS--KEY

ANSWERS ACROSS:

6. DEATH CERTIFICATE
9. INTERMENT
10. VAULT
12. DECEASED
14. MORTICIAN
15. FUNERAL
17. CREMATION
18. EULOGY
19. HOSPICE

ANSWERS DOWN:

1. WAKE
2. MAUSOLEUM
3. MEMORIAL SERVICE
4. CASKET
5. BEREAVEMENT
7. TERMINALLY ILL
8. CALLING HOURS
11. OBITUARY
13. EMBALMING
16. AUTOPSY

Name _____ Class _____

A DYING PERSON'S BILL OF RIGHTS

1. I have the right to be treated as a living human being until I die.
2. I have the right to maintain a sense of hopefulness, as long as I live.
3. I have the right to express my feelings and emotions about my approaching death in my own way.
4. I have the right to participate in decisions concerning my situation.
5. I have the right to expect continuing medical and nursing attention even though my illness is terminal.
6. I have the right not to die alone.
7. I have the right to be free from pain.
8. I have the right to have my questions answered honestly.
9. I have the right to have help from and for my family in accepting my death.
10. I have the right to die in peace and dignity.
11. I have the right to retain my individuality and not be judged for my decisions, which may be contrary to the beliefs of others.
12. I have the right to discuss my religious and/or spiritual experiences, regardless of what they may mean to others.
13. I have the right to expect that the sanctity of the human body will be respected after death.
14. I have the right to be cared for by sensitive, knowledgeable people who will attempt to understand my needs and will be able to gain some satisfaction in helping me face my death.

(Adapted from the Indiana Consumer and Homemaking Curriculum Guide on Human Development. August, 1988, Unit 23)

DIRECTIONS: After reading The Dying Person's Bill of Rights, circle the right you feel is most important. Write a brief case study in which it would be important for a patient to have this particular right. What would happen if the patient did not have this right? Be prepared to share your ideas with the class.

Name _____ Class _____

STAGES OF ADJUSTMENTS TO DEATH/DYING

(Adapted from Elizabeth Kubler Ross's "On Death and Dying".)

Below are the stages that people usually experience when adjusting to death.

1. **DENIAL AND ISOLATION**--This is a stage when the person cannot actually admit that the death has occurred. People may want to be left alone because they are afraid of showing emotions that scare them. This stage may last from a few hours to many years.
2. **ANGER**--After the first stage has passed, the person may feel anger and ask, "Why me?" This is a very difficult stage to endure. People in this stage may show unusual behaviors, such as using profanity and getting angry at everything that happens. Other people must be very patient and understanding with them.
3. **BARGAINING**--The third stage of grieving is called bargaining. It is one way of not dealing with reality or of dealing with guilt by trying to make bargains with others.
4. **DEPRESSION**--When people become depressed, they need the love and support of close friends and relatives. It is important that they are allowed to express their grief. Some people may need counseling to deal with the death that has occurred.
5. **ACCEPTANCE**--This stage of grief may not mean that the person is happy, but that they have recognized what has happened and have learned to cope with it. At this stage the person is able to express his/her feelings about the death.

INSTRUCTIONS: Five situations are listed below. Each one describes a different stage of adjustment to death. Use the information above to decide in which stage the people are. Write the stage in the space provided.

1. Tom cannot understand why his mother died. He blames everyone and has started to break things and hit people. He repeats to himself, "Why did this happen to me. I don't deserve this. Why me?"

2. Taff's sister, Dora, died recently. He has finally accepted that she is gone, but he cannot stop thinking about her. The more he thinks of her the sadder he gets. He sits around all day and doesn't want to talk to anyone, or do anything.

3. Martha is 65 years old. Her husband just died and she is very angry. She yells at all of her children to leave her alone. She screamed, "If you would leave me alone I would stop yelling!"

4. Dee died when he was seven years old. His mother, Debbie, was angry at first. Now she can talk about Dee's death freely. She knows he is not alive and has adjusted to a life without him.

5. Sally will not accept the fact that her grandmother has died. She spends a lot of time alone thinking about all the things she and her grandmother can do together.

DEATH AND DYING GROUP ACTIVITY
20 POINTS POSSIBLE

Name _____ Class _____

HELPING OTHERS COPE WITH DEATH

Write your responses to the following situations:

1. Your next door neighbor is a sweet, elderly lady. She lives alone. Her husband has been in a nursing home for two years. He died last night. You go to visit her.

2. A classmate was killed in an automobile accident. You liked him very much. As you enter the funeral home, you meet his mother and father.

3. Your aunt loves children and was pregnant. The baby was stillborn last week. You have come to their apartment to visit. All of the baby's things they had bought are sitting on the table.

4. One of your classmates in school has been in the hospital for a week. It has just been announced that she has a terminal illness. She is alert and able to have visitors. You plan to visit her after school.

5. Your friend's father died of a heart attack. Your friend has two brothers and one sister, all younger than he. His mother does not work outside of the home. Your mother sent you to their home with some food.

Name _____ Class _____

EPITAPH

An epitaph is a phrase or the words placed on the stone or marker in the cemetery in memory of the deceased person. It usually says something nice about the person--something about the way he would like to be remembered. Your assignment is to visit a cemetery and read some of the epitaphs you will find there. List those phrases you like, that are happy and make you feel like you would like to have known that person. What would you like your own epitaph to say?