

Consent Practice Cards

Recommended Age: 12+

Goals

- To explore the meaning of different consent responses.
- To practice consent.

Have Ready

- Consent cards.

Instructions

- Have the class think of a consent question to practice (e.g., Can I kiss you?).
- Explain that you have a bunch of cards with possible responses to this question. Hand out the cards and go around the room, getting youth to show their card and discuss where the card's example is consent being given or not, and why.

Debrief

- **I'm not ready.**
That's a no. They aren't ready to do this activity.
- **No.**
That's a very clear answer. We must always respect it.
- **I need to go home.**
Sounds like they aren't into it and maybe feel uncomfortable. We have to respect their answer.
- **I guess so?**
The words mean yes, but the question mark seems like they might be hesitant. I'd do a check-in to talk about their feelings.
Remember, consent must always be enthusiastic. If they aren't sure, that means it's a no.
- **I changed my mind.**

Depends on what they first said. People have the right to change their mind. If they said no, and change to a yes without any pressure, then that is a yes. If they said yes, but change their mind and want to stop, that's totally okay too. We have to stop.

- **Sure!**
That's a clear, enthusiastic yes.
- **Yes, please!**
That's a clear, enthusiastic yes.
- **Stop.**
People have the right to change their mind. If someone says stop, always stop.
- **Maybe later.**
That's a no. Could it mean maybe later? Yes. But it could also mean they don't feel comfortable saying no. Either way, we'd have to ask again later to clarify and respect whatever answer they say.
- **Umm.**
Sounds like they aren't sure, so that's a no.
- **(Laughing)**
Sometimes people laugh or giggle when they are nervous. Because they aren't saying yes, it's a no.
- **Uh-huh.**
That's a no.

I'm not ready

No

I need to go home

I guess so?

I changed my mind

Sure!

Yes, please!

Stop

Maybe later

Umm

(Laughing)

Uh-huh