

Educational activities to promote youth mental health

March 2021, CMHA-Montréal



The CMHA Montréal: Meeting community needs

- Knowledge transfer and information

(training, conferences, educational workshops, intervention guides, consulting services, documentation centre, referencing)

- Awareness

(Mental Health Week, Celebrating Mental Health)

- Social impact

(community action, socio-political analysis, participation in public consultations, social movements, public positioning on social issues, forums organization, focus groups, research projects support)



Now more than ever, we have to foster youth's ability to adapt and help them build resilience.



Objectives

Provide various tools to **youth workers, teachers and parents** so that they can better support young people in:

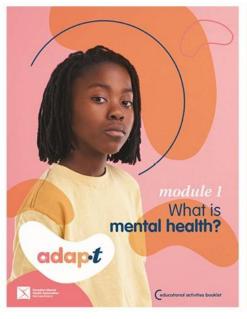
- Learning how to deal with and normalize mental health as well as their emotions (worries, anxiety, uncertainty...);
- Building on or developing mental health management strategies, particularly their resilience and social skills;
- Demystifying the demand for help.



Community Health
And Social Services Network
Réseau communautaire de santé
et de services sociaux

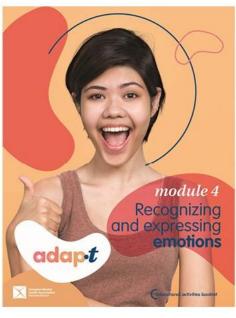


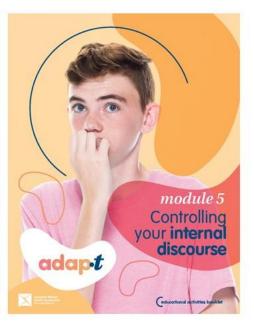
The Adap.t complete guide













Activities



My mental health, I'm taking care of it!

time required 20 to 30 minutes

objective

identify ways to feel good about yourself

suggested approach

- 1 In a large group, ask students if they know how to take care of (that is, preserve or improve) their mental health. Jot down some of their answers on the board
- Hand out the student worksheet and ask students to identify ways to develop and preserve good mental health.
- 3 In a large group, ask students to share their onswers.
- Discuss which one of these habits they would like to adopt. What obstacles could prevent them from doing so? How can these be overcome?

remember

To stay mentally healthy, you can:

- surround yourself with good people
- 2 talk about your problems
- 3 take care of your physical health
- 4 * take time for yourself
- 5 manage your stress
- 6 accomplish and fulfill your goals
- 7 learn to know yourself
- etc.



My mental health, I'm taking care of it!



How to take care of your mental health talk to and be surrounded by good people	I do this	Pd like to
Talk to someone when I'm not doing well, when I don't know what to think anymore	0	0
Have a positive and diverse social network (friends, parents, adults at school, etc.)	0	0
Visit Websites for young people (e.g., Tel-Jeunes, Jeunese, J'écoute)	0	0
Learn to resolve conflicts	0	0
Other:	0	0
take care of my physical health		
Exercise regularly	0	0
Eat well and regularly	0	0
Sleep enough (set aside 8 to 10 hours for sleeping)	0	0
Limit my intake of sugar, coffee, energy drinks, cigarettes, alcohol, etc.	0	0
Other:	0	0
take time for myself		
Have a hobby or a passion	0	0
Give myself the right and the time to have fun	0	0
Other:	0	0
manage my stress		
Manage my time, plan my activities, get organized (e.g., use an agenda, work out a schedule)	0	0
Relax (e.g., do something pleasant or relaxing, keep a personal diary)	0	0
Do one thing at a time, live in the present moment	0	0
Other:	0	0
accomplish and fulfill my goals		
Set personal objectives and goals	0	0
Have dreams and do what it takes to fulfill them	0	0
Recognize that I have a right to make mistakes	0	0
Learning from my mistakes	0	0
Other:	0	0
learn to know myself		
Know my strengths and identify my personal challenges	0	0
Know how to recognize and deal with my feelings	0	0
Assert myself, express my needs and my limits	0	0
Other:	0	0



discussion points

There are many ways to deal with life. What's important is to find the ones that suit you best, and especially not to be affacid to try new ways of doing things.

You don't necessarily have to be in distress to take action! Solving minor problems quickly means you can avoid having to solve them later when they've gotten bigger.

It's a good sign when you dedde to talk to a resource person. It means that you're doing what you need to take care of yourself and that you're seeing your situation more dearly, it's healthy and positive!

Taking care of your mental health is like training to be in better shape: if requires practice and offort, but in the end, it's always worth it

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facilitator worksheet

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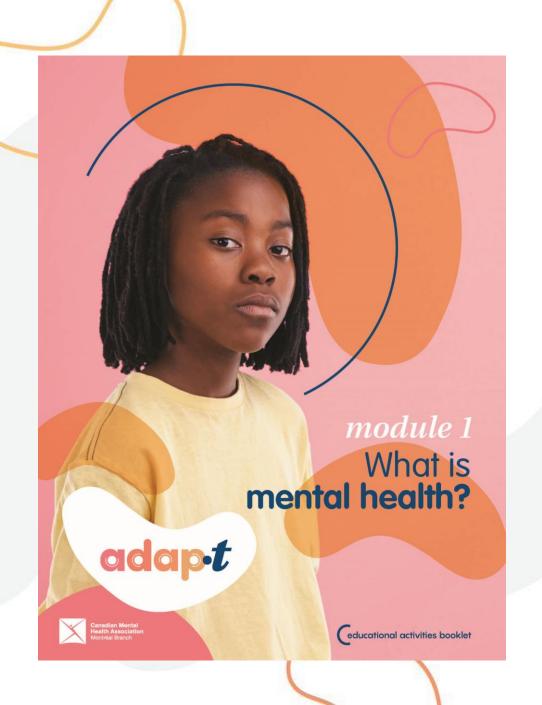
Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)

Objective: to develop knowledge, skills and positive attitudes in daily interpersonal relationships.

A multitude of social and emotional skills to be acquired:

- problem solving/decision making
- creative thinking/critical thinking
- effective communication/interpersonal skills
- self-awareness/empathy
- emotional regulation/stress management





This module introduces students to the concept of mental health while distinguishing it from mental illness. The activities invite discussion on the subject and also allow students to get to know themselves better. They become aware of the power they have over their mental health and identify concrete ways to promote their own well-being.

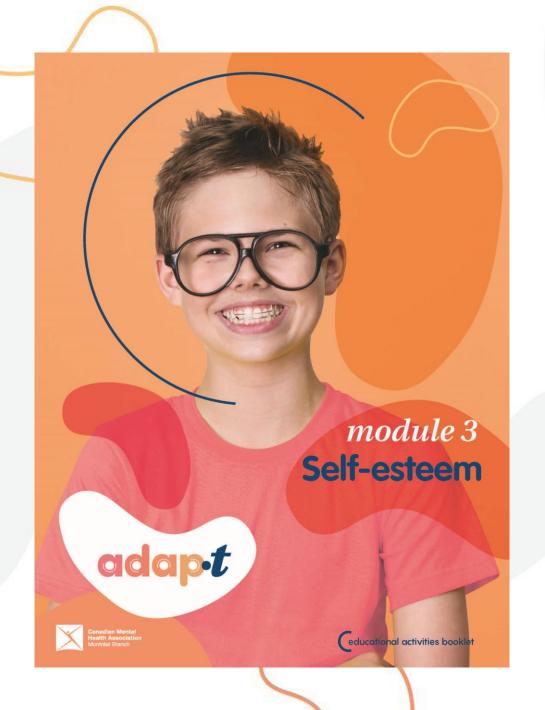




Managing stress

While stress is normal and even necessary, pervasive or pervasive stress can have a negative impact on mental health. By better understanding its causes and manifestations and identifying ways to release tension, students will be able to make the most of stress without being under its control.



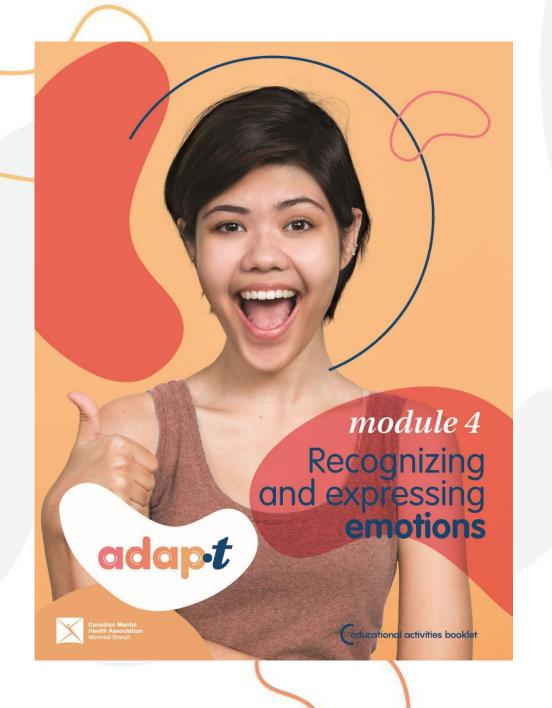


Self-esteem

A key component of good mental health, self-esteem is often mistaken for arrogance or self-centeredness.

However, knowing your strengths and making a realistic assessment of your abilities is healthy! This unit will help students recognize the importance of this component, while allowing them to concretely identify their skills and ways to strengthen them.

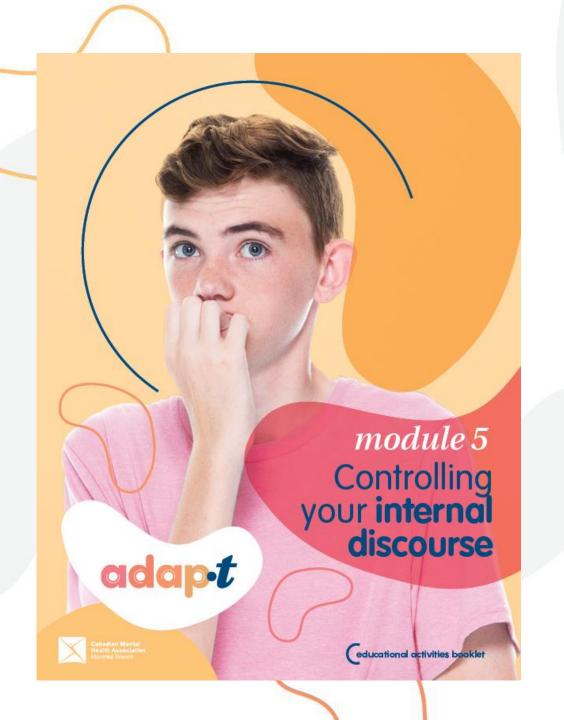




Emotions, recognizing and expressing them

In adolescence, emotions can sometimes take a toll on us! Before trying to control them, it is important to better understand them and to listen to the message they send us. Students will learn to explore their emotional world and manage their emotions in a caring manner.





Controlling your inner speech

What kind of impact can the words and phrases we repeat to ourselves have on us, often unconsciously? This module, which includes elements of the previous themes, allows students to make the connection between their thoughts, emotions and behaviours. They also discover how to regain control over their perceptions and adopt an understanding approach towards themselves.





Questions? Comments?

- What are the main issues you see in terms of mental health among youth in schools?
- Would you use/recommend this tool?
- What are some of the barriers to use that you can foresee?

You will receive a link to download the Adap.t Guide

You can also visit our website for more information

https://acsmmontreal.qc.ca/en



Thank you

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