



Susan P. Byrnes Health Education Center programs adhere to the tenet that students learn by seeing, hearing and doing. Furthermore, education should be fun and engaging in order to truly reach and inspire a child. The programs conducted in the Center's five high-tech Teaching Theaters are the embodiment of these principles. A visit to the Susan P. Byrnes Health Education Center is an exciting multimedia experience. Innovative programs are led by dynamic health educators and are enhanced by amazing, interactive exhibits.

The **Substance Use and Abuse Theater** educates students about the dangers of various drugs. With an exhibit of a healthy lung compared to that of a smoker, students can see how damaging tobacco can be. Other interactive exhibits cover topics such as the effects of substances on brain function and the dangers of drunk driving.

In the **General Health Theater** students will learn why the body is such an amazing machine by exploring the body from the cellular level up to the systems of the body. Programs on AIDS and on mental health take place in this theater as well.

The **Nutrition & Fitness Theater** features a giant, 3-foot-tall heart with working valves and chambers, showing the path of blood through the heart. Students learn how to take care of this hard-working organ by eating right and exercising. Many other dynamic exhibits and activities teach how to eat healthy and stay fit.

In the **Family Living/Life Begins Theater** younger students can learn about what makes them unique – their genes! A popular program for adolescent students is puberty, and teens can learn about the miracle of life and the reproductive system.

The **Body Shop for Early Learners** introduces young students in grades K-3 to the building blocks of health. A giant mouth has a set of primary teeth. When children "pull a tooth", that tooth talks to them about its role in the mouth. Simon, the Center's purple furry mascot, sits in the corner and comes to life to teach students about nutrition, safety and other topics.

**Theater programs are offered in 26 specific health-related topics:**

- AIDS
- Alcohol Prevention
- Anatomy
- Basic Body Systems
- Circulatory System
- Decision Making
- Dental Health
- Digestive System
- Endocrine System
- Fitness
- Five Senses
- Genetics
- Hygiene
- Immune System
- Muscular System
- Nervous System
- Nutrition
- Puberty
- Respiratory System
- Safety
- Self Esteem & Body Image
- Skeletal System
- Stress Management
- Substance Abuse Prevention
- Tobacco Prevention
- Violence & Bullying Prevention

**All theater programs are accompanied by:**

- Pre-visit letter to parents
- Pre-visit worksheets
- Pre-visit vocabulary
- Secure location for lunch
- Parking for busses and vehicles
- Post-visit curriculum

**More key facts about Theater Programs:**

- meet many National and Pennsylvania State Education Standards
- are cross-curricular, incorporating reading, math and science whenever possible
- were designed in conjunction with local school representatives to enhance classroom curriculum