



POWERUP



Overview:

PowerUp seeks to empower pre-adolescents to take charge of their reproductive health through a choose-your-own-adventure mobile game that teaches social emotional learning, conflict resolution, and health skills in a fun, interactive way.

Physical and Mental Health Trends:

- From Centre for Disease Control, 6-7% of preadolescents have had sex
- Adolescents having unprotected sex without a condom increased to 40%
- Up to 17% of adolescents have seriously contemplated suicide

Gap in Education:

- Only 65% of schools provide sex education
- Only 40% of schools explain condom use
- Organizational programs have limited reach

Powerup Curriculum:

- Game content based on SEL Core Competencies (Self-awareness, Self-management, Social awareness, Relationship skills, Decision making)
- Popular media will be used in the storyline, music, avatar accessories

Powerup Points:

- Points are earned through decision making, based on users' ability to think critically, demonstrate self-esteem, and understanding of reproductive health
- Points can be used to purchase clothes, accessories, and advancing in levels
- To promote positive reinforcements, points can not be removed due to what might be considered "poor decision making"

Superpowers

- As the character evolves and gains points in the game, she will also gather superpowers associated with particular personality traits that will be added to the main character's slate of options as she faces new situations

Mini Games

- Mini games will be integrated to indirectly address key information surrounding reproductive health such as sexually transmitted infections
- Mini games provide a mental break from the storyline

References:

Center for Disease Control (2013). Retrieved January 9, 2015, from http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/yrbs/pdf/trends/us_sexual_trend_yrbs.pdf.

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Facts on American Teens' Sources of Information About Sex. (2012, February 1). Retrieved March 27, 2015, from <http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/FB-Teen-Sex-Ed.html>.

