

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE: Suicide Intervention

Question 1: Walking through your classroom you see a student's drawing on his desk. The drawing is of a gun and the words, "I'm Done."

What do you do? What is your immediate first step?

Select the best answer.

- a) You notify the office that there needs to be a shelter in place/lock down drill.
- b) You admire the drawing as it is very detailed and compliment the student as being a talented artist.
- c) You return to your desk and ask the student to come to your desk. You speak quietly about the drawing as you want to learn more and ask, "Your drawing on your desk says 'I'm Done.' What do you mean? What are you done with?"
- d) You ask the student to get paper towels and cleanser to clean off their desk. You will not stand for anyone to disrespect school property.

ANSWER C

Question 2: You are an 8th grade science teacher. A student has shared with you that one of their peers said in the restroom, "No one would notice if I were gone. I am just a burden to everyone."

What do you do? What is your immediate first step?

Select the best answer.

- a) You ask the student who shared this with you to have a seat; you have a lecture to give.
- b) You approach the student who expresses "I am just a burden..." calmly and assure them they are wanted and no burden. You walk with them to the counselor's office to talk in a more private setting.
- c) You ask the student who shared this with you to immediately go to the school counselor and inform them. That is the school counselor's job and not your problem.
- d) You ask the student to go find the troubled student's sister as this is clearly a personal or family issue.

ANSWER B

Question 3: Once you are in the counselor's office, you will ...

What do you do? What is your next step?

Select the best answer.

- a) ask the student what they have thought about and done hour by hour for the last 48 hours.
- b) hand the student a form to complete to gather more information from them.
- c) have a conversation to gather more information about the individual's situation and mind set and ask if they are thinking about taking their own life.
- d) leave the student in the counselor's office and ask around if someone has time to meet with this student with you.

ANSWER C

Additional Fact: You will make notes of the conversation with the student on the Assessment portion of the Crisis Referral Form. From this step, you will call another person within the school to assist in contacting either a parent or the local agency in which needs to be involved to protect the student.