

NREPP RATING ANALYSIS BY THE CALIFORNIA HEALTHY KIDS RESOURCE CENTER PROJECT VENTURE

Program Abstract Posted on NREPP

Project Venture is an outdoor experiential youth development program designed primarily for 5th- to 8th-grade American Indian youth. It aims to develop the social and emotional competence that facilitates youths' resistance to alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use. Based on traditional American Indian values such as family, learning from the natural world, spiritual awareness, service to others, and respect, Project Venture's approach is positive and strengths based. The program is designed to foster the development of positive self-concept, effective social interaction skills, a community service ethic, an internal locus of control, and improved decision making and problem-solving skills. The central components of the program include a minimum of 20 1-hour classroom-based activities, such as problem-solving games and initiatives, conducted across the school year; weekly after-school, weekend, and summer skill-building experiential and challenge activities, such as hiking and camping; 3- to 10-day immersion summer adventure camps and wilderness treks; and community-oriented service learning and service leadership projects throughout the year.

A. Does this program meet the minimum program requirements for inclusion on the Science-Based Programs List?

- YES** This selective and universal substance abuse prevention program targets middle school American Indian youth.
- NO**

Program Requirements

- Universal, selective, and/or indicated prevention program
- Targets one or more alcohol, tobacco, drug, disruptive behavior, and/or violence outcomes
- Targets students in one or more grades K-12

B. Do this program's NREPP ratings meet the minimum research ratings for inclusion on the Science-Based Programs List?

- YES**
- NO** NREPP reports one behavioral outcome related to substance use for the Project Venture program. However, this behavioral outcome is not rated at or above the minimum standards on all criteria.

NREPP's Quality of Research Ratings by Criteria (0.0-4.0 scale)

Outcome	Reliability	Validity	Fidelity	Missing Data/Attrition	Confounding Variables	Data Analysis	Overall Rating
Outcome 1: Use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and other illicit drugs	2.5	2.5	2.5	1.5	1.5	2.5	2.2
Outcome 2: Substance abuse risk and protective factors	2.3	2.5	2.5	1.5	1.5	2.5	2.1

NREPP RATING ANALYSIS BY THE CALIFORNIA HEALTHY KIDS RESOURCE CENTER PROJECT VENTURE

Behavioral Outcome(s) Reported by NREPP

Outcome 1: Use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and other illicit drugs

Respondents indicated the number of days (0, 1-2, 3-5, 6-9, 10-19, 20-31) in the past month they used alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and other illicit drugs. In one study, alcohol use increased for both intervention and control students from baseline to the 6-month follow-up, then leveled off among intervention students and continued to increase among control students from the 6- to 18-month follow-up ($p < .05$). In a second study, alcohol use from pre- to posttest remained the same among students in the intervention group and increased among students in the control group ($p < .01$). This difference represents a large effect size (partial eta-squared = 0.189). From pre- to posttest, use of marijuana ($p < .01$) and other illicit drugs (cocaine, other stimulants, heroin, tranquilizers, hallucinogens, inhalants, steroids, and club drugs; $p < .05$) remained the same among students in the intervention group and increased among students in the control group. The effect sizes were large for marijuana (partial eta-squared = 0.162) and medium for other illicit drugs (partial eta-squared = 0.097). Tobacco use remained the same over time among students in the intervention and control groups.

NREPP Criteria	Reliability	Validity	Fidelity	Missing Data/Attrition	Confounding Variables	Data Analysis	Study Design
NREPP Ratings	2.5	2.5	2.5	1.5	1.5	2.5	Experimental
CDE Minimum Ratings	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	<i>Experimental or Quasi-experimental</i>
Meets Minimum?	✓	✓	✓				✓

Outcome does not meet minimum standard for all criteria