Know the Facts Before Answering Sensitive Questions

When answering youth questions:

Be simple and brief
Adolescents are concrete thinkers
People remember the first and last thing that you say
Do not use the word you when answering questions

*If you had sex with someone and you found out she was gay, would you get AIDS because she was gay?*

No, the person can only get HIV if he or she has sex with someone else who has HIV. The fact that she is gay has nothing to do with whether or not the person could get HIV.

*Is it okay for me to have sex if I use a condom?*

The only 100% way to avoid getting an STD or getting pregnant is not to have sex. If someone does choose to have sex, a condom will help reduce his/her risk of getting an STD or getting pregnant but remember that condoms are not always 100% effective.

*Is it better for me to have oral sex rather than vaginal sex?*

While someone cannot get pregnant from oral sex, oral sex is not safer than vaginal sex. Someone could get an STD from both vaginal and oral sex.

*Is it normal if I get an erection when I stand in front of the class?*

It is common for boys to get an erection during adolescence. Not all erections are due to sexual excitement but are often caused by changes that are going right now in their bodies.

*Is it safe if you have sex standing up?*

Any time someone has sex—oral, vaginal, or anal—they are at risk for getting pregnant or getting an STD.

*Besides vaginal sex, is there any other way a girl can become pregnant?*

Pregnancy is possible anytime sperm comes in close contact with the vagina which can be during anal sex or sexual touching between the penis and vagina.

*If you have oral sex, does it mean you are still a virgin?*

There are many different beliefs about what virginity means. However, the most important thing to remember is that oral sex is sex and can increase the risk for STD’s and HIV.
Can a girl get pregnant if the guy pulls out?
Yes. Pregnancy is possible anytime sperm comes in close contact with the vagina. In this case, especially if a condom wasn’t used during sex, it is important for the girl to get tested for pregnancy and for both people to get tested for STD’s and HIV.

A friend I know said her boyfriend used the same condom twice. Could she get pregnant?
Yes, she could be pregnant. A condom can only be used once to reduce the risk of pregnancy and STDs. After that it should be thrown away in the trash. It is important she get tested for pregnancy and STDs/HIV.

Is it okay to have sex with my boyfriend if I love him?
Even if two people love each other, it doesn’t mean that they are ready or want to have sex. There are many different ways for people to express love for each other that does not involve sex. Remember, not having sex is the only 100% effective way of not getting pregnant or getting an STD.

Resources:
Centers for Disease Control & Prevention – Talking with Your Teens about Sex: Going Beyond ‘the Talk: https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/proective/factsheets/talking_teens.htm
I Wanna Know – Be Askable Parent: http://www.iwannaknow.org/parent.html
RAINN – Talking to Your Kids About Sexual Assault: https://www.rainn.org/articles/talking-your-kids-about-sexual-assault
Trans Student Educational Resources: https://www.transstudent.org/
We R Native Factsheets: https://www.wernative.org/gear/free-stuff