# Susmita LEARNS HER BODY

AND BOUNDARIES



WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY

These children's books have been created to help our children and tweens become educated on their bodies, their boundaries, their sexuality and their blood.

They are an offshoot of a series of adventure books written about a girl called Susmita who travelled the world. Susmita as a child wears gender neutral clothes and has dark brown skin and red hair so as to not exclude any one culture in particular.

In this book Susmita learns the importance of safe touch, the anatomy of the body and how to say no. This book is a fun way to educate both parents and children on the importance of knowledge and language surrounding the body.

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY KIKI MAREE DESIGNED AND EDITED BY JESSE SOHN Copyright © 2020 Kristin Murray

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Text design and layout by Jesse Sohn This book was typeset in Chalkboard Printed and Bound in Australia

ISBN 9781716910395

Published in 2020 Updated in 2025

www.yonilicious.com.au/sex-ed-books

TO ALL OUR YOUNG CHILDREN YOUR BODY IS YOUR OWN, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO SAY NO ... ALWAYS

It is time for Susmita to learn the sacred parts of her body so that she can stay nice and safe.

She will also learn communication skills so that she can communicate her boundaries properly.



Susmita will then be able to let people know what she feels comfortable with regarding the touch of her body.

Susmita learns that her body is very special and sacred, and that she is the only person who can decide what feels good for her and what feels bad.

Susmita also learns that no one has the right to touch her body without her consent, which is where Susmita gives a clear and enthusiastic yes, like when her mum asks for a hug!



Susmita learns about the green, orange and red parts of the body. She also learns the green, orange and red code words for her boundaries.





Green is used for body parts that are exposed when wearing winter clothes.

If someone touches this area with their hands it is generally okay.





Orange is for the parts of the body exposed when wearing summer clothes.

If someone touches this area with their hands it may be inappropriate and Susmita may need to state her boundaries.





Red is for the body parts exposed when going for a swim, taking a shower or getting dressed.

If anyone touches Susmita in these areas it is unacceptable, unless Susmita's parents need to clean her. Otherwise if this happens Susmita must use the red code words to stop the person immediately and tell someone.





**Green code words** can be used for touch from people that Susmita loves, or that she feels safe to be touched by.

In these situations, it's still important to ask Susmita for consent before touching her aside from routine actions like lifting or seating her.

Susmita may also use green code words for situations like hair cuts at the hairdresser, or going to the dentist.





"Can I give you a hug Susmita" is one way a loved one can ask for Susmita's permission for touch.

"May I wash and cut your hair Susmita?" is another way a safe person like the hairdresser can ask for Susmita's permission for touch.

Susmita can respond with or remind people to use green code words if they forget such as:





"Yes you can hug me."

## "This hug is okay by me."

## "Yes you may wash my hair."

"Can you please ask me if it's okay by me next time I visit."





**Orange code words** can be used for touch from people that Susmita doesn't really know, or doesn't really feel comfy with.

An example being at a family gathering where Susmita receives a hug from an aunt or uncle that makes Susmita feel uncomfortable.





People should ask Susmita for permission to touch her in these situations, with green code word questions like "can I give you a hug Susmita?"

However, if they don't, the way Susmita can communicate her boundaries is to use **orange code words** like:





"I don't feel comfy with a hug right now, I would prefer a handshake".

Or she can also use her **green** code words: "okay by me" or an orange code word "consent":

"Can you please ask me if it's okay by me next time"

"Please ask for my **consent** before you hug me."





**Red code words** are used for hugs or any kind of touch that feels bad and wrong.

These words can be used when being touched in any of the green, orange or red zones of the body, but especially the red zones.





If someone touches Susmita in any way that feels bad and wrong she must say things like

"This does not feel comfy, please **stop now**".





Susmita learns that she can say "no" regardless of what colour code she is experiencing.

Even if it is a code green situation and everything feels fine, she can still say "**no**".





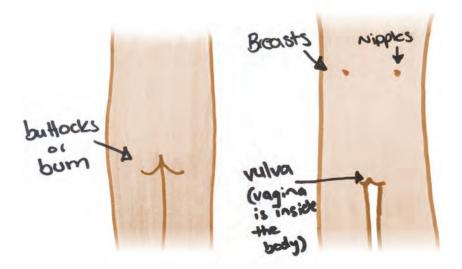
Susmita learns that it's very important that no one ever touches the red zones on her body.

These zones are just for Susmita, unless her parents need to clean them or a doctor needs to check them—and only when her parents are there too.





Susmita learns that if someone touches her body in any of the red zones she must understand what they have touched. This is so she can tell her mum or care-giver exactly what has happened. Therefore, Susmita learns the names of the red zone parts of her body.



Susmita also learns that she should never touch the red zones on anybody else. She learns that these are sacred parts of other people.

She learns that if anyone ever asks her to touch or photograph these parts, especially an adult, that she must say "**no**" and tell someone that she trusts what this person has asked of her.





Susmita learns some more language to communicate her boundaries, and that she can say these words in any situation that she feels uncomfortable in. These words are:

"Stop"
"Stop, I don't like it."
"Stop, I don't consent, I'm
going to tell my mum/dad/
auntie/grandfather".
And simply, "no".





Susmita learns that "**no**" is a complete sentence, and that she does not need to explain why she is saying "**no**".

Susmita's body is her own, and in the same way that she has special toys that she doesn't want anyone else to touch, it is the same with her body though much more important.





Susmita also learns that it is OKAY for her to touch herself in all of the zones on the body, but to save the red zones for private, in her bedroom with the door closed.





She learns that she can ask for privacy from her parents or caregiver during this time, by letting them know that she is having special Susmita time.





Susmita also learns that the colour codes are different for children than for adults, and that it will change when she is all grown-up. However, Susmita does not need to learn about this just yet.





Susmita is so happy that she learned so many things about her body and her boundaries today, and feels confident that she can be much safer with herself and the people around her.



## THE END



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