

Teaching Diverse Students

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1

What to Expect from this Webinar

- Share videos that can help better understand concepts relevant to teaching diverse learners
- Share vignettes regarding the significance of inclusive practices
- Share practical strategies for educators to create an inclusive learning environment so that all students feel represented and valued

2

How Do We Define a Diverse Learner?

- Ethnicity
- Ableism
- Underserved population
- Different family makeup
- Different from the mainstream
- Different race
- Does not speak English as their first language
- None of the above
- All of the above

3



Diverse Learning

Diversity in educational institutions is increasing rapidly
Educators must ensure that all their students are able to access the content standards and demonstrate mastery of the skills and knowledge embedded within these standards

- Can be achieved by tapping into the different intelligences
- Gardner, an American developmental psychologist, recognized that humans have several types of intelligences



4

Different Modes of Transportation



5

Benefits of a Diverse Learning Classroom

Students develop:

- Collaborative skills
- Empathy
- Cultural competence
- Different intelligences
- Prepare for global market
- Reduces prejudice and stereotype



6

Social Learning Theory: Bandura

Bandura's social learning theory highlights that behaviors can be acquired by observing and imitating others

In his famous *Bobo doll* experiment, he demonstrated how children learn by imitating and observing the behavior of others and how they reproduce the same behavior

Concluded that children learn aggressive responses either through direct observation or through media and the environment



7

How Students Learn

Children's thoughts and feelings are influenced by the people around them, including parents, teachers, peers, and the media

In the manner a child can learn aggression from observation, they can also learn prejudice against others who appear different

- A Sudanese student and the clock episode
- An African American child in handcuffs after tantrum



8

CHILDREN LEARN WHAT THEY LIVE

—Dorothy Law Nottle

If a child lives with criticism, he learns to condemn.

If a child lives with hostility, he learns to fight.

If a child lives with ridicule, he learns to be shy.

If a child lives with shame, he learns to feel guilty.

If a child lives with tolerance, he learns to be patient.

If a child lives with encouragement, he learns confidence.

If a child lives with praise, he learns to appreciate.

If a child lives with fairness, he learns justice.

If a child lives with security, he learns to have faith.

If a child lives with approval, he learns to like himself.

If a child lives with acceptance and friendship, he learns to find love in the world.



9

Strategies From Study Participants

- I repeat things and I also use a lot of realia so talking about an item, I will try to have that item in the classroom to show them what they are
- I look at their learning style. We try to integrate for visual learners, we make sure that we have visual aids, for kinesthetic learners, we make sure that we incorporate movement throughout the day or throughout the lesson, for the auditory learners, we make sure that we have some type of story component in our lesson for those students who are auditory learners
- Adaptive equipment with special scissors in which the whole hand goes grip into modifying scissors
- Breaking down vocabulary words to facilitate learning



10

Additional Strategies for Diverse Learners

Additional techniques

- Jigsaw Technique
- See, Think and Wonder
- Three Period Lesson
- Think Pair Share
- Universal Design for Learning (UDL)



11

Inclusive Practices

Find books in which all students can be represented

Reflect diversity in the coursework

- Culturally relevant teaching can increase student achievement and engagement and reduces achievement gaps

Diversity in the classroom décor

- Who is represented? Who is ignored?
 - Toys, Books, Posters



12



Down Syndrome

Why Disability Representation in Toys Is So Important



13

Custom-made Dolls

<https://youtu.be/fyt8dwrRA>



14

Books on Diversity: Hair Love



15

Hair Everywhere

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BK6Z7U7X_A&feature=youtu.be



16

The Crayon Box that Talked



17

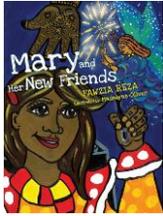
M & M Activity

<https://youtu.be/0eqOpKguNSU>



18

Mary and Her New Friends



19

Vignette 1 : Respecting Religious Practices

A parent was frustrated when her daughter's elementary school did not demonstrate respect for the family's Muslim religious beliefs and continued to give her child food containing pork products



20

Vignette 2: Accommodating Cultural Needs

In some cultures, looking in the eye when speaking to the teacher is considered demonstrating attentiveness. However, in others looking into the eyes of a teacher or elder is a sign of disrespect
Sam, who recently moved from Japan does not make an eye contact with the teacher when she talks to him. The teacher believes that Sam is being disrespectful and does not listen to her. What should you tell her?

<http://usep-ohio.org/asian-americans.html>



21

Vignette 3: Inclusive Classrooms

Hi, Tom? This is Fawzia Reza, Sarah's teacher. I'd love a chance to introduce myself and chat about how I can best support Sarah. Are you and your wife available after school next Monday?

What is wrong with this conversation?



22

Vignette 4: Diverse Families

Tania who is 5 years old came home from preschool and told her father. Daddy, Farah has two mommies and no daddy.

What should he tell Tania?



23

Family Book

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AyVl9BH0guk>



24

Vignette 5: Students with Diverse Needs

Sana has mild ADHD and cannot sit still for extended periods. Her teacher, Mrs. Smith is getting very frustrated with this behavior. She believes that Sana should be in a special needs class due to her condition. She discusses this issue with you.

What do you tell her?

Speak to her parents and discuss they can remove her to a school that is better suited for her?

Provide her some strategies that can help Sana calm down and remain in the mainstream class? Consider the Hoberman Sphere or the Pomodoro technique



25

Thank you



26
