STATE
YOUR PASSION.

IllinoisState.edu
Choosing and Using Culturally Responsive Texts in Your Classroom

Ashley Wolinski-Norton
Clinical Assistant Professor and Chicago Coordinator, ISU SED
arwolin@ilstu.edu
Ah summer. When teachers don’t have to wait for a bell to use the bathroom.

"The summer is going by so slow," said no teacher ever.

I'm a teacher. It's never too early for a nap in the summertime.
ABOUT ME... ABOUT YOU...
CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TEACHING

• WHAT DOES THAT MEAN TO YOU?
• WHO ARE YOU TEACHING?
• KNOW YOUR LEARNERS AND THEIR FAMILIES/ CULTURES
• HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=X5EKVESNCNE
CULTURAL MISMATCH

• DIFFERENCE IN VALUES AND TRADITIONS
• DEFICIT THINKING...DO WE KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS?
• MISUNDERSTANDINGS
CULTURAL MISMATCH

TEACHERS
• REPORT CARD DATA- IL 2015
  • 83% WHITE
  • 77% FEMALE

STUDENTS
• REPORT CARD DATA- IL 2015
  • 49.3% WHITE
  • 25.1% HISPANIC (COMBINED)
  • 17.5% BLACK
  • 4.6% ASIAN
  • .3% AMERICAN INDIAN
  • 88.7% OF EL STUDENTS IN CHICAGOLAND
  • 18.5% IDENTIFIED WITH A DISABILITY
  • 2020 ESTIMATES
CRT = RELEVANCE

• Teacher must display cultural competence
• Cross cultural or multi cultural settings
• Cultural relevance allows for your student to relate to the content through their culture
• Provides an additional support for understanding text

• Relevance is…
  • What, who is important
  • How they see themselves
  • Connections to text
  • Relating to the characters/ story
  • Cultural connection
  • Self identity
  • Interests
IF...

THE LESSON YOU ARE TEACHING, CONCEPT YOU ARE UNPACKING, OR BOOK YOU ARE READING

DOESN’T RESONNATE WITH YOUR STUDENTS, IT IS NOT RELEVANT AND ENGAGING!

...THINK ABOUT OURSELVES
TEXT THAT GOES BEYOND HOLIDAYS, TRADITIONS, RACE & HAS MULTIPLE USES
CHOOSING BOOKS

Your Collection Should Include...

- Books about people that represent all of the cultures, languages, and ethnicities in the program
- Books about children who are bicultural and/or show bicultural experiences
- Books about immigrant and refugee experiences
- Books that reflect a wide range of cultures and many books about each culture
- Books that positively show many different lifestyles (adoptive parents, single parent households, LGBT families, foster families, multigenerational families, grandparents raising grandchildren, etc.)
- Books that portray children with disabilities positively and as active, capable main characters
- Books that show female characters in positive, active roles that break gender stereotypes
- Books that show male characters that break gender role stereotypes
- Books that feature men of color in positive roles and in roles as fathers
EVALUATE THE TEXT!

• ILLUSTRATIONS- STEREOTYPES, TOKENISM
• STORY LINE- BIAS
• LOOK AT THE LIFESTYLES
• RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN PEOPLE
• HEROES/ SHEROES
• CHILD’S SELF AND SOCIAL IDENTITY
• AUTHORS/ ILLUSTRATORS BACKGROUND OR PERSPECTIVE
• LOADED WORDS
• COPYRIGHT DATES
RESOURCES FOR YOUR CLASSROOM

MANY CULTURES, ONE COMMUNITY

Researchers have found that children’s literature reflecting diverse cultures told by authentic voices enhances empathy and validates the unique experiences of readers. First Book is partnering with the NEA Foundation to launch the Many Cultures, One Community resources to help you positively impact the social and emotional learning of the children you serve.

Each book in the Many Cultures, One Community section is paired with a tip sheet created with experts from Cook Ross, a national leader in diversity & inclusion training. These book-and-resource pairings will give you and your students the opportunity for thoughtful discussion, creative exploration, and lots of fun.

The books in this section were all written by previously unpublished authors of color and published by Lee & Low Books. With generous support from the NEA Foundation, we are proud to make these books available in exclusive paperback special editions. Discover more fantastic diverse titles in our...
I LOVE YOU FIRST BOOK, OH YES I DO

• CHECK THIS OUT! HTTP://WWW.FBMARKETPLACE.ORG/STORIES-FOR-ALL-PROJECT/

STORIES FOR ALL PROJECT™

Through the *Stories for All Project*, First Book strives to provide all kids with diverse books that act as mirrors and windows. Kids feel valued and validated when they see their own experiences reflected on the pages of books, and they develop curiosity and empathy when they read about experiences different from their own. To help your kids grow as both readers and global citizens, shop our ever-expanding selection of diverse books using the category filters on the left.
Price
$0.00 - $1.99 (83)
$2.00 - $3.99 (677)
$4.00 - $5.99 (324)
$6.00 - $7.99 (185)
$8.00 - $9.99 (28)
$10.00 - $11.99 (5)
$22.00 - $23.99 (1)
$24.00 - $25.99 (6)
$26.00 - $27.99 (7)
$28.00 and above (89)

Age Groups
Ages 0 to 3 (161)
Ages 4 to 6 (538)
Ages 7 to 9 (721)
Ages 10 to 12 (469)
Ages 13 to 15 (335)
Ages 16 to 18 (206)
Adult (4)

Language
English (1061)
English/Spanish (173)
French (12)
Multilingual (1)
Spanish (113)

Category
African American Interest (408)
Asian American & Pacific Islander Interest (150)
Global Stories (278)
Immigrant & Refugee Experience (129)
Jewish Interest (63)
Latino Interest (505)
LGBTQ (40)
Muslim American Interest (34)
Native American Interest (63)
Religion (40)
Special Needs & Abilities (105)
CURRICULUM COLLECTION AT LEWIS LIBRARY: MULTICULTURAL/CULTURALLY-RESPONSIVE BOOKS

Contents

- Instructional Strategies
- Fiction and Picture Books
- Chapter Books
- Non-fiction/Informational Texts
- Culturally Responsive STEM Fiction and Non-Fiction
- Africa (Sub-Saharan)/African
- African-American
- Australia/New Zealand/Oceania
- Caribbean/Caribbean-American
- East Asia/Asian-American
Choosing and Using Culturally Responsive Texts

Welcome!

This page was created in collaboration with the TCICP Summer Spotlight Inquiry Project. See below for my own inquiry into choosing and using Culturally Responsive texts for my students. Click the link for selected text to learn a little bit about each book. Click each book jacket to get printable lesson plans, videos, and other materials so you can use these books with your students!

Related Learning Library

One Teacher’s Story
Going Home
My Very Own Room
One Green Apple
The Have a Good Day
Cafe
Tomás and the Library
Lady
Willie Wins
EVALUATING BOOKS FOR CULTURAL RELEVANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cultural Relevance Rubric</th>
<th>3-Yes!</th>
<th>2-Kind of...</th>
<th>1-No</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Characters</td>
<td>![Character Image]</td>
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<td>![Character Image]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Experiences</td>
<td>![Experience Image]</td>
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<td>![Experience Image]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Place (Setting)</td>
<td>![Place Image]</td>
<td>![Place Image]</td>
<td>![Place Image]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time (setting)</td>
<td>![Time Image]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Main Character’s Age</td>
<td>![Age Image]</td>
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**Cultural Relevance Rubric**

1) Are the characters in the story like you and your family?

- Just like us: 4, 3, 2, 1
- Not at all

2) Have you ever had an experience like one described in this story?

- Yes: 4, 3, 2, 1
- No

3) Have you lived in or visited places like those in the story?

- Yes: 4, 3, 2, 1
- No

4) Could this story take place this year?

- Yes: 4, 3, 2, 1
- No
OPEN EBOOKS FREE $$$
HTTP://OPENEBOOKS.NET/INDEX.HTML
- CATALOG ELE → HS
- ACCESS CODES FOR TABLETS, PHONES, COMPUTERS
KEEP SEARCHING- EVEN MORE RESOURCES!

- GOOGLE DOC
  - PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE ME TO SHARE-ADD PLEASE!
  - HTTPS://DOCS.GOOGLE.COM/SPREADSHEETS/D/1VXBK2DPUPUPFH9ITSKM_1DL5ERSLOWCKESYA7GLBBNC/EDIT?USP=SHARING
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>ADDITIONAL RESOURCES</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Children’s Peace Education and Anti-Bias Library**  
This website includes a bibliography of children’s books that celebrate diversity as well as promote peace and understanding. It has a searchable database of books and educational activity ideas.  

**Cooperative Children’s Book Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison**  
This website contains multiple bibliographies of children’s books on a variety of themes, including multicultural children’s books and Spanish-English Bilingual books. Books are organized by grade level.  
[http://www.education.wisc.edu/ccbc/default.asp](http://www.education.wisc.edu/ccbc/default.asp)

**World of Words, University of Arizona**  
This website features many multicultural children’s books and includes lists of books organized by age level and region. It also features links to issues of the WOW review, a journal focused on reading across cultures, and a number of helpful links and ideas for reviewing and using culturally authentic children’s literature.  
[http://wowlit.org](http://wowlit.org)

**World of Difference Institute, Anti-Defamation League**  
This website contains thematically organized lists of multicultural and anti-biased literature featuring a wide range of different cultures. It includes many books for very young children and also includes guidelines for assessing books for bias as well as information about using books to promote tolerance.  
[http://www.adl.org/bibliography/default.asp](http://www.adl.org/bibliography/default.asp)

**Teaching for Change**  
This website includes children’s book lists compiled by culture and culturally responsive themes. Recommended age level is listed under the specifics for each book. It also includes professional development books to guide anti-bias, culturally responsive practice for educators.  
[http://bbpbooks.teachingforchange.org/best-recommended/booklist](http://bbpbooks.teachingforchange.org/best-recommended/booklist)

**NCCLR Quick Guides**  
*Selecting Culturally Appropriate Children’s Books in Languages Other Than English* helps teachers and home visitors find, select, evaluate, and use books to support language and literacy development in the home languages of young children.  
*How to Use Bilingual Books* offers practical, manageable ideas on how to use bilingual books in the classroom and home.  
STAY IN TOUCH

• HTTP://CPSFIELDBASEILSTU.WEEBLY.COM
My passion is teaching and learning! Let’s be better!
arwolin@ilstu.edu