

Resource List for Multiculturalism/Diversity
Family & Community Resource Center
Special School District of St. Louis County
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St. Louis, MO 63131
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Accept and Value Each Person. Cheri J. Meiners (2006)

Ages 4-8. The world is becoming more diverse, and so are the daily lives of our children. Accepting and valuing people and groups who are different from oneself and one's immediate family is a critical social skill. This book introduces diversity and related concepts: respecting differences, being inclusive, and appreciating people just the way they are. Includes questions, activities, and games that reinforce the ideas being taught. (31 pages)

Activities for A Diverse Classroom: Connecting Students. Leah Katz, et al (2003)

Offers teachers a variety of classroom activities designed to build acceptance, belonging and friendship among all students.

All Kinds of Friends, Even Green! Ellen Senisi (2002)

Kindergarten-Grade 4-When his teacher gives an assignment to write about a friend, seven-year-old Moses considers classmates, neighbors, parents, and teachers before finally deciding on Zak, his teenage neighbor's iguana, because she is different yet determined, like him. Using a wheelchair due to disabilities including spina bifida, Moses nevertheless participates in all of the classroom activities. Zak has missing toes, yet has learned to compensate by using her strong front legs to keep up with Hashi, her companion iguana (14 pages)

Anti-Bias Curriculum: Tools for Empowering Young Children. Louise Derman-Sparks (1995)

The 12 chapters of this book provide a rationale for an anti-bias curriculum, and discuss:(1) creating an anti-bias environment (2) working with 2-year-old children (3) learning about racial differences and similarities (4) learning about disabilities (5) learning about gender identity (6) learning about cultural differences and similarities (7) learning to resist stereotyping and discriminatory behavior (8) using activism with young children (9) using holiday activities in an anti-bias curriculum(10) working with parents. A self-education guide to starting an anti-bias curriculum is provided.

Beyond Affliction: A Disability History Project. Public Broadcasting Audience Service. (1998)

A four-hour documentary radio series about the shared experience of people with disabilities and their families since the beginning of the 19th century.

Beyond Separate Education: Quality Education for All. Dorothy Kerzner Lipsky & Alan Gartner (1989)

Addresses the mission of PL 94-142 and the refashioning of schools to make them effective for all students. Speaking to the concerns of regular and special educators, parents and policymakers, the experts writing this book urge adaptations in society and the education system, present effective education practices, propose realistic supports for families and offer the “best practices” in education based on current theories of knowledge and learning

A Celebration of Differences (video). (1999) (22 minutes)

Individuals with learning differences possess unique strengths. In this video, children and adults describe the strategies and experiences that aid them to succeed in a world that is often frustrating and confusing. They discuss their academic struggles, the empowerment that comes from understanding their issues and the determination that enables them to address life’s continuing challenges.

Cooperative Learning and Strategies for Inclusion: Celebrating Diversity in the Classroom. JoAnne W. Putnam (1993)

Source book provides strategies for tailoring curricula and instructional approaches to improve the academic achievement, social skills, and self-esteem of a diverse population of students regardless of their individual abilities, backgrounds and learning styles. Guidelines are supplied for restructuring the classroom to establish a cooperative environment that optimizes learning and encourages positive, interdependent relationships.

Dealing with Differences – Taking Action on Class, Race, Gender, and Disability. Angela Ellis and Marilyn Llewellyn. (1997)

A classroom tested action guide to dealing with issues and prejudice around class, race, gender and disability. The exercises, discussion topics and reading provide a framework to bring these complex issues out in the open as positive forces for change.

Different Is Not Bad, Different Is the World: A Book About Disabilities. Sally L. Smith. (1994)

Children’s book about learning and physical disabilities teaches grades 2 to 6 to empathize with those who are different from them and to recognize the value of all people. Filled with colorful, humorous illustrations.

Different Just Like Me. Lori Mitchell (1999)

Grades 1 to 6. April is excited to visit her grandmother, but she has to wait a whole week. So she and her mom keep busy by shopping at the farmers' market, visiting April's dad at work, and eating at the local diner. Over the course of the week, April observes the many differences between herself and the people she encounters. The anticipated weekend with her grandmother finally arrives, and April comes to realize that differences can be beautiful (15 pages)

Diversity Equals Inclusion (video) (13 minutes) (1994)

Tape spotlights companies, school and community groups that recognize the value of diversity and successfully include people with disabilities as students, employees,

customers and participants. An important educational and motivational tool for those responsible for ADA implementation.

Dreamkeepers: Successful Teachers of African American Teachers. (1994)

Among the issues the author addresses in a readable blend of storytelling and scholarship are separatist education and culturally relevant teaching in content, presentation, and presenter. Current successes and future prospects for improving the school experiences of African American students are also addressed. Here is a book filled with pride and questions that should stimulate anyone interested in improving education.

Everybody's Different: Understanding and Changing Our Reactions to Disabilities.

Nancy Miller and Catherine Sammons (1999).

Features awareness activities that show us how we see differences and help us enrich our interactions with people who have learning differences. With specific interaction tips and practical ways to improve our personal, professional and community relationships.

A Field Guide to Boys and Girls: Differences, Similarities: Cutting-Edge Information Every Parent Needs to Know. Susan Gilbert (2000)

Taps into parents' natural fascination with gender issues and urges readers to move beyond the fear that discovering sex differences will lead to sex biases. Beginning with gender differences in the womb, Gilbert walks parents through such issues as early brain development, Barbies, guns, math and personality traits such as aggressiveness or sociability.

Filtering People: Understanding and Confronting Our Prejudices. Jim Cole (1990)

Gently and sympathetically helps us identify our prejudices, explore how and why we become prejudiced - and learn how we can begin to overcome our prejudices. Filtering People has been used widely and avidly by people trying to understand, confront and change prejudices.

A Framework for Understanding Poverty. Ruby K. Payne, PhD (2001)

Teaches the hidden rules of economic class and spreads the message that, despite the obstacles poverty can create in all types of interaction, there are specific strategies for overcoming them. Through case studies, personal stories and observations that produce some aha! moments, Payne clearly strikes a chord in her readers., and provides a hopeful message.

From Rage to Hope: Strategies for Reclaiming Black and Hispanic Students. Crystal Kuykendall (1992)

This book offers a compelling and informative examination of the academic underachievement, apathy, and rage among America's Black and Hispanic youth.

I'm Like You, You're Like Me: A Child's Book About Understanding and Celebrating Each Other. Cindy Gainer (1998)

Grades Pre-K-2. Simple words and lush illustrations draw children into this gentle story of discovery, acceptance, and affirmation. This is diversity on their level: hair that is straight or curly, families with many people or few, bodies that are big or small each one

unique but just right for that person. Boys and girls discover that even though people are different, they can enjoy being together and learning about each other. Important topics like talking, listening, feelings, and cooperation are explored in the most basic terms so even young children can grasp them. (41 pages)

Keith Edward's Different Day: Different Is Just Different! (1992)

Helps young children to consider differences in a positive light. With a discussion guide for parents and educators.

Kinda Blue. Ann Girfalconi (1993)

Pre K to grade 3. Sissy feels lonely and blue until her Uncle Dan cheers her up by explaining that everything, even corn, needs special attention every now and then (29 pages)

More Alike Than Different . (video) (8 minutes)

Ages 5-12. This upbeat video features kids with chronic conditions at leisure and sport. By focusing on kids with epilepsy, asthma, diabetes, hearing loss and neurofibromatosis while they practice karate, camp out, play soccer and music, go scouting and drive go-carts, this children's awareness tool delivers the self-esteem message. Action kids reflect how they are more like other kids than different. Good tool for inclusion and diversity education programs.

Not Better...Not Worse...Just Different. Sharon Scott (1992)

Ages 5 to 10. Sharon Scott has selected one of the most trying and troublesome problems that has existed throughout all of mankind's development. Nicholas and his friends creatively attack the obvious, and not so obvious, problems associated with the word prejudice. It comes in all sorts and differing circumstances. Children once exposed to Nicholas' concern for people will, in later years, bring greater hope and encouragement throughout the world (118 pages)

Our Children, Our Hopes: Empowering African-American Families of Children with Disabilities. (video) (15 minutes) (1993)

In the space of 15 minutes, African American parents share their compassion and talk about the challenges of parenting a child with disabilities who is also black. Parents must face a lack of professional and community support as well as lowered expectations for their child - based on race. Strategies for finding resources and building networks of support are highlighted. Of primary importance - becoming an advocate for your child.

Providing Cross-Cultural Support Services to Individuals with Disabilities and Their Families. (1999)

This training module focuses on cross cultural support services to individuals with disabilities and their families, and is part of a training series for paraprofessionals working with students who have disabilities

Purple Hair, I Don't Care! Dianne Young (1995)

Ages 4-8. Who would want a baby with purple hair? Mrs. Della Rgaon, that's who. Oh, to you it might seem frightful, but to her it sounds delightful. She'll love her little baby

come what may. (32 pages)

A Rainbow of Friends. P.K. Hallinan (2002)

Ages 4-8. A story in verse about how all friends are special and valuable regardless of differences or difficulties (22 pages)

Respecting Our Differences: A Guide to Getting Along in a Changing World (1994)

Timely, essential book encourages young people to become more tolerant of others and savor the rich diversity of Americas changing culture. Real-life examples profile students from across the country that are working to promote more tolerance in their schools and communities. Teens learn the benefits of becoming more tolerant: increased self-confidence, the ability to be comfortable in all kinds of situations and interact with all types of people, better conflict resolution skills and a life that's more interesting and fun.

Restructuring for Caring and Effective Education: An Administrative Guide to Creating Heterogeneous Schools. Richard A. Villa et al (1992)

Designed to help professionals merge regular and special education while responding to the unique needs of every learner, this handbook teaches how to prepare staff, structure opportunities for collaboration, involve parents, promote feelings of belonging, with unions, universities and state agencies, and obtain practical supports.

Same Difference! (video) (1994) (25 minutes)

Features students with "visible" disabilities talking to their peers about their lives, their futures and the respectful treatment they expect from their community. Aimed at teen-age audience.

Savage Inequalities: Children in America's Schools. Jonathan Kozol (1991)

National Book Award-winning author Jonathan Kozol presents his shocking account of the American educational system in this stunning *New York Times* bestseller.

Sensitivity and Awareness: A Guide for Developing Understanding Among Children (1994).

Designed specifically as a resource for people who are concerned about helping children develop an understanding and ease with people who are different. Includes basic facts in the non-threatening media of storytelling. Provides discussion questions.

Small Differences (video) (1995)

Enlightens people of all ages about disabilities. Kids in the video, some with disabilities themselves, ask people with disabilities questions adults are too embarrassed to ask. Grades 4-12.

Take a Walk In My Shoes — A Guidebook for Youth on Diversity Awareness Activities. (1994)

Video and guidebook on diversity awareness activities to facilitate cultural diversity workshops. Video provides motivational introduction to diversity, and the guidebook includes activities that address the topics of ethnic awareness, learning disabilities, hearing impairment, visual impairment, and motor impairment.

2007 Regional Report Card: Eliminating the African American Achievement Gap. St. Louis Black Leadership Roundtable (2007)

Understanding Families: Approaches to Diversity, Disability and Risk. Marci Hanson and Eleanor Lynch. (2003)

Combining research on families and family-centered services, text provides practical suggestions for caregivers, especially those whose children are at risk or have disabilities. Discusses family membership, socioeconomic status, culture, ethnicity, and language. Addresses such risk factors as poverty, addiction, and violence

Unforgettable Pen Pal: A Story About Prejudice and Discrimination. (video) (28 minutes) (1989)

When A.J. and his pen pal, Joey, discover their mutual interest in basketball, they become the best of friends. But the chance to finally meet one another at a professional basketball game leads them to encounter prejudice where they least expect it. This video will help kids realize the negative effects of prejudice and the importance of forming their opinions about others intelligently.

We're All Special \$12 Courage to Change

We're All A Like, We're All Different Disability Awareness Tool Kit for Elementary Students (2005)

Provides students with an opportunity to gain a greater understanding and appreciation for people of all abilities, offering a valuable learning experience that can be applied in the school environment and everyday life.

We're All Different. Kirsten Hall (1999)

Ages 4 to 8. Although children are different in appearance, they all have ten toes, favorite clothes and love to play (31 pages)

We're Different, We're the Same. Bobbi Kates (1992)

Pre-K to grade 1. The colorful characters from Sesame Street teach young children about racial harmony. Muppets, monsters, and humans compare noses, hair, and skin and realize how different we all are. But as they look further, they also discover how much we are alike (32 pages)

We're People First...a Celebration of Diversity (book and CD) Jeff Moyer.

A collection of songs that celebrate diversity with joyful enthusiasm and also provokes thought about issues of human unity with ballads that touch the heart. Volume I designed to be used with elementary school age children. Volume II is teenager level.

What's the Difference. (video) (1998)

A good disability awareness tool for grades K-5, this video offers positive images of children with various disabilities who are active and athletic. This winner of multiple film awards features children with different abilities having fun, showing how little some differences matter.

Why Does That Man Have Such a Big Nose? Mary Beth Quinsey. (1986).

Famous book about differences among people and the questions children ask about them. Discussion of the 12 black and white photographs and both forthright and open-ended. For grades pre-K to 1.

March 2008