



race, culture, and ethnicity

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BEST PRACTICES AND GUIDELINES

Creating an Anti-Bias Classroom

This set of guidelines outlines a set of practices that educators can incorporate into their daily practices to foster a respectful and inclusive classroom.

Anti-Defamation League

<http://www.adl.org/education-outreach/curriculum-resources/c/creating-an-anti-bias-learning-environment.html>

Speak Up at School

This guide for educators provides guidelines and strategies for responding to remarks made by students and by other adults and gives guidance for helping students learn to speak up as well. The guide also focuses on preparing adults to speak up themselves and act as models for students.

Teaching Tolerance

http://cdna.tolerance.org/sites/default/files/general/Speak_Up_at_School.pdf

Facing History

A teacher's guide and additional resources for discussing race in the classroom.

Understanding Race

http://www.understandingrace.org/resources/for_teachers.html

GROUP ACTIVITIES

Understanding Stereotypes

Students will learn to understand that assumptions can lead to stereotypes and unfair judgments about individuals and groups, and how stereotypes and biases affect our lives.

Discovery Education

<http://school.discoveryeducation.com/lessonplans/pdf/stereotypes/stereotypes.pdf>

“Claim It!” Differences and Similarities: Creating a Climate of Inclusion

“Claim It!” provides a simple lesson plan for exploring diversity in the classroom. This activity helps reveal the many differences a classroom of students has, despite the classroom appearing homogenous at first glance.

RaceBridges for Schools

<http://racebridgesstudio.com/claim-it-differences-similarities-creating-a-climate-of-inclusion/>

In My Other Life

What would it be like to grow up in another culture? Students work together to venture outside the borders of their own experience to try on an alternative cultural identity. Groups research other cultures and present their findings.

Edsitement

<http://edsitement.neh.gov/lesson-plan/my-other-life#sect-activities>

Character Lesson: Respect

In this unit, learners explore the relationship between “respect” and definitions and examples of prejudice, bias, racism, and stereotype. Students learn to recognize prejudice and examine how they perceive others. Learners also discover how prejudices are learned and reflect on how to be more respectful of others.

Learning to Give

<http://learningtogive.org/lessons/unit488/>

*see website for additional lesson plans by grade level

Facing History

These lessons help prepare students for difficult conversations, creating safe and respectful classrooms and moving beyond stereotypes and labels.

Preparing Students for Difficult Conversations

<https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library/facing-ferguson-news-literacy-digital-age/preparing-students-difficult>

Beyond Classification

<https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library/beyond-classification>

Teaching Tolerance

This activity will help teach social justice using photography.

Using Photographs to Teach Social Justice: Exploring Identity

<http://www.tolerance.org/lesson/using-photographs-teach-social-justice-exploring-identity>

Ladder of Prejudice

<http://www.tolerance.org/exchange/ladder-prejudice>

WRITING AND REFLECTION ACTIVITIES

What's Your Frame?

This activity encourages students to reflect on their individual cultures and histories, their backgrounds, the things they grew up with (some that may have been in their control and others that they had no choice about), and their values. In the end, students will begin to enlarge their perspective and recognize diversity of belief and background.

Teaching Tolerance

<http://www.tolerance.org/activity/reflection-what-s-your-frame>

Challenging Biased Language

The Anti-Defamation League created this set of guidelines and suggestions to help individuals recognize and challenge their own biases and teach them how to respond to offensive behavior or language.

Anti-Defamation League

<http://www.adl.org/education-outreach/anti-bias-education/c/challenging-biased-language.html#.V5EDSZOAOko>

MOVIES AND VIDEOS

Big Enough

“Big Enough” is an hour-long documentary that re-introduces viewers to five short-statured individuals filmmaker Jan Krawitz met in her 1982 film “Little People.” Through interviews done in 1982 and interviews done some 20 years later viewers are given an opportunity to see into the world of a little person. This lesson provides students with an opportunity to explore and discuss issues of identity, stereotypes and diversity in our society/culture. Students will examine the impact that intolerance has on groups in our society.

PBS

<http://www.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/5dee5e53-f866-4747-b6ab-5fd34a3523fa/5dee5e53-f866-4747-b6ab-5fd34a3523fa/>

Race: The Power of an Illusion

A teacher's guide to the video series “Race: The Power of an Illusion.” Includes “Ten Things Everyone Should Know about Race,” facilitation and discussion tips, and suggestions for viewing.

PBS

<http://www.tc.pbs.org/race/images/race-guide-lores.pdf>

<http://www.pbs.org/race> (online companion resource)

<http://newsreel.org/video/RACE-THE-POWER-OF-AN-ILLUSION> (to purchase the video for \$25)

Created Equal

The NEH Created Equal project uses the power of documentary films to encourage public conversations about the changing meanings of freedom and equality in America. The four films that are part of this project tell the remarkable stories of individuals who challenged the social and legal status quo on issues including slavery and segregation.

EDSITEment

<http://edsitement.neh.gov/lesson-plans/created-equal>

Building Respectful School Climates: Webinar Series

This series of webinars, created by the Anti-Defamation League, provides practical strategies and tips for addressing bias and bullying and creating a positive school climate.

Anti-Defamation League

<http://www.adl.org/education-outreach/education-webinars/#.UtVRD9JDtyw>

HISTORY/SOCIAL STUDIES

Hate Crimes Legislation

Increasingly diverse school populations mean that campuses are not, unfortunately, immune to hate crimes. The U.S. Department of Justice addresses the needs of teachers and school administrators in “Preventing Youth Hate Crime: A Manual for Schools and Communities,” available online in PDF form. This resource provides ideas both for immediate action and long-term policy responses to hate crimes, as well as a list of successful programs on campuses around the nation.

Teaching Tolerance

<http://www.tolerance.org/supplement/hate-crimes-legislation-high-school>

Whites, Blacks, and the Blues

“Whites, Blacks, and the Blues” enables students to explore and measure the distance between black people and white people in the past and present United States. By thinking about the intersections of whites, blacks, and others around blues music, students will deepen their understanding of discrimination and prejudice. They will also come to understand the ways in which music can, or cannot, create opportunities for people of different cultures, and with varying degrees of power, to relate to one another and find common ground.

PBS

<http://www.pbs.org/theblues/classroom/intwhitesblacks.html>

JFK, LBJ, and the Fight for Equal Opportunity in the 1960s

This lesson provides students with an opportunity to study and analyze the innovative legislative efforts of Presidents Kennedy and Johnson in the social and economic context of the 1960s. By reading and listening to Kennedy's and Johnson's statements, students will examine their intentions for mounting the fight for equal opportunities for all Americans. Students will use online primary source documents to examine and analyze Americans' struggles over social and economic rights in these tumultuous years.

EDSITEment

<http://edsitement.neh.gov/lesson-plan/lesson-21-new-frontier-great-society-and-fight-equal-opportunity-1960s>

Islam in America

In "Islam in America," students explore some of the religious and cultural variations within Islam, as well as the relationship of Muslims to members of other religious groups. There are five videos for this lesson. A segment on the influx of Somali Muslims into a town in Maine highlights the tensions that can occur when a group of Muslim immigrants settles in a community unfamiliar with Islam. Other videos look at the relationship of African-American Muslims to Muslims who immigrate from Asia and Africa and similarities between Islamic Halal and Jewish Kosher traditions.

PBS

<http://mass.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/islam08.socst.world.glob.lpinamer/islam-in-america/>

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

Mix It Up

Mix It Up at Lunch Day is a national campaign launched by Teaching Tolerance that encourages students to cross social boundaries and interact with someone new at lunch. The website provides information on how to facilitate a Mix It Up Lunch as well as other activities and suggestions for increasing interactions across groups and decreasing prejudice.

Teaching Tolerance

<http://www.tolerance.org/mix-it-up/what-is-mix>

Getting Out of the Box

Students will define stereotype, discrimination and prejudice. They will brainstorm a social action plan to heal racism.

Learning to Give

<http://learningtogive.org/lessons/unit137/lesson3.html>

WEBSITES

Anti-Defamation League

<http://www.adl.org/>

Discovery Education

<http://www.discoveryeducation.com/>

EDSITEment

<http://edsitement.neh.gov/>

Facing History

<https://www.facinghistory.org/>

Learning to Give

<http://learningtogive.org/>

Multicultural Education Program

<http://mep.berkeley.edu/>

The National Center for Culturally Responsive Education Systems

<http://www.nccrest.org/>

PBS

<http://www.pbslearningmedia.org/>

Teaching Tolerance

<http://www.tolerance.org/>

Zinn Education Project: Teaching a People's History

<http://zinnedproject.org/>

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