Activating Activity
## What’s the Difference?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diversity</th>
<th>Culturally Responsive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recognizes, fosters and develops sensitivity to the needs of students in various identity categories are primary aims of educational diversity.</td>
<td>Acknowledge the presence of culturally diverse students and the need for these students to find relevant connections among themselves and the subject matter and the tasks teachers ask them to perform.</td>
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## National Snapshot: Where Are We?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caucasian-American/ White</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African-American/ Black</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Racial breakdown of U.S. births

Racial and ethnic minorities made up more than half of U.S. births in a 12-month period ending July 2011.

Minority births: 50.4%  
White births: 49.6%

Racial breakdown

- White: 1.99 million
- Hispanic: 1.05
- Black: 0.61
- Two or more races: 0.25
- Asian: 0.19
- Native American: 0.07
- Pacific Islander: 0.01

Total births: 4.01 million

Numbers do not add up due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau
Georgia Special Education Population

- American Indian: 0%
- Asian: 2%
- African American: 39%
- Hispanic: 10%
- Pacific Islander: 0%
- Two or More Race: 3%
- White: 46%
Creating Your Culturally Responsive Classroom

It is **not** simply acknowledging ethnic holidays, including popular culture in the curriculum or adopting colloquial speech.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/01/08/examples-of-slavery-in-school-worksheet_n_1192512.html
Cultural Responsiveness
Self-Assessment
A Moment of Reflection

What were some self-revelations gained?
The Pedagogy behind CR reveals what WE already know:

most instruction is centered on Eurocentric cultural values
So, how do I start?

1. Appreciation for the cultures represented in your school
2. Recognition & validation of your student’s culture
3. High esteem for self and high regards for others
4. Belief that all students will succeed
Building Blocks of Culturally Responsive Classrooms

In CRC the environment is:

- High Expectations
- Fosters Open Communication
- Stigma-Free
- Emotionally Safe & Supportive
- Promotes Acceptance
So, what does it look like?

Some indicators of CR in the special education classroom include:

- use of texts from diverse cultures
- current & relevant bulletin boards
- student made posters and artifacts
So, what does it look like?

Some additional indicators of CR in the special education classroom include:

- **Cooperative Learning Groups**
- Guided & informal group discussions
- Interdisciplinary/ cross-curricular themes and units
Hmmm....

Your learning environment should be representative of the background and culture of the students you teach. - Ron Clark, 2011
Culturally Responsive Teaching Strategies

In CRT some elements are essential because they enhance teaching and learning:

1. Values
2. Communication Styles
3. Learning Styles
4. Contributions
5. Social Problems
6. Levels of Identity Development & Affiliation
Strategic Instruction

Think-aloud Method

**Action:** Teacher reads a passage and “talks through” the cognitive processes for the students.

**Objective:** shows students how to ask themselves questions as they develop comprehension of texts.

**Highlights:** what to do, why, how and when takes advantage of the benefits of modeling.
Strategic Instruction

Reciprocal Questioning

**Action:** student-centered approach where pupils formulate their own list of questions about a reading selection or concept.

**Objective:** Develop higher-ordered cognitive abilities

**Highlights:** shared learning through discovery (i.e. math, science), reading, discussion, and questioning
Content Suggestions

Language Arts

- Espseranza Rising
- Bronx Masquerade by Nikki Grimes
- Grammar sentence structure, figurative language, and writing

Social Studies

- Comparing cultural values and their impacts on history.
- Cause and Effect Relationships
- Writing Systems
- African names
- Asian proverbs
- Mythology
Interdisciplinary Units

- **Connect** content area learning with culturally diverse learning activities
- Designed around **cross-curricular connectedness** with students participating in **meaningful** reading, writing, computational, listening, and speaking tasks
- Emphasize explicit **connections** among content areas
Content Suggestions

Science

• Discovering DNA
• Discuss how specific genes and traits are unique to different families (i.e. dimples) and ethnic groups (i.e. skin color, sickle cell anemia)
• Physics of sound: using Hinduism and the Tibetan prayer bowls, have students sing

Math

• Expounding on geometry and Islamic art using isometric grids
• Abacus lesson plans to add and subtract small numbers
• Number systems
Scaffolding

- Teacher determines difference between what students can accomplish independently and the learning that needs to be supported.

- Teachers design instruction that provides just enough scaffolding for students to be able to participate in tasks that are currently beyond their reach.

- Over time, difficult tasks become more attainable for the learner and the teacher can introduce more difficult tasks.
Now it's your turn!

Using the ideas we have discussed today, let’s create our own culturally responsive lesson plan!
Museum Walk
Let’s Discuss!
Questions Anyone?
References


What does Diversity Mean in Education? Diversity Digest (2012)


U.S. Census Bureau Statistics on Birth Rates 2011, Associated Press
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