Culturally responsive teaching isn't a strategy... it's a mindset.

Culturally Responsive Teaching Guide

Inclusive Classrooms ♥ Empowered Students ♥ A More Equitable Future

Different backgrounds. Same potential.

See it ♥ Value it Teach it

1. KNOW YOUR STUDENTS

Build awareness. Create connection.

- ✓ Learn about your students' cultures, backgrounds, and lived experiences.
- ✓ Use surveys, conversations, and community resources.
- ✓ Avoid assumptions and stereotypes.
- ✓ Recognize and celebrate each student's unique identity.

When students see themselves in the curriculum, they feel valued, respected, and capable.



2. DESIGN INCLUSIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Make learning relevant, rigorous, and real.

- ✓ Use diverse, high-quality texts and media.
- ✓ Connect content to students' real-life experiences and cultures.
- ✓ Incorporate multiple perspectives and voices.
- ✓ Offer choice and flexibility in how students learn and demonstrate understanding.

3. BUILD A SUPPORTIVE CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT

Foster respect, belonging, and safety.

- ✓ Establish clear, inclusive norms and expectations.
- ✓ Use positive, affirming language.
- ✓ Address bias and microaggressions quickly and consistently.
- ✓ Create a space where all students feel seen, heard, and valued.

4. USE EQUITABLE TEACHING PRACTICES

Differentiate with dignity and high expectations.

- ✓ Provide scaffolds and multiple entry points for learning.
- ✓ Use culturally relevant examples and contexts.
- ✓ Form flexible groups and avoid tracking.
- ✓ Ensure all students have access to resources and opportunities.

5. ENCOURAGE STUDENT VOICE AND LEADERSHIP

Invite, listen, and take action.

- ✓ Give students opportunities to share their perspectives and stories.
- ✓ Include student interests in lesson planning and projects.
- ✓ Support student leadership and advocacy.
- ✓ Teach and practice respectful dialogue and critical thinking.

6. PARTNER WITH FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

Strengthen relationships, expand support.

- ✓ Build genuine, ongoing communication.
- ✓ Respect families' cultures, languages, and values.
- ✓ Collaborate with community organizations and local resources.
- ✓ Involve families in meaningful ways (beyond just events).

7. REFLECT & GROW

Be intentional. Keep learning.

- ✓ Examine your own biases and assumptions.
- ✓ Seek feedback from students, families, and colleagues.
- ✓ Learn from mistakes and celebrate progress.
- ✓ Stay informed about culturally responsive practices and current research.



Culture is not a barrier to learning...
It's a bridge to it. ♥



Better Teachers Build a More Inclusive World ♥