

CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE LESSON PLAN DESCRIPTORS

Culturally Responsive Indicators	What it looks like in a lesson plan
Climate of Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student input/say/choice and voice • Expectations • Different modes of assessment • Change language to address students’ fears • Anticipatory set • Community building activities • Multiple activities within one lesson that addresses different learning styles/ preferences • Books offered for a variety of interests, and all teach the same skills
Connections between students’ prior knowledge and learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private think time regarding prior knowledge • Gauge prior knowledge • Revisit earlier concepts • Writing assignment connections to previous concepts • Prepping students to open “file boxes” (schema theory) • KWL charts • Journal and discussion about connections
Rigor/High Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rubrics, or other clearly defined evaluation criteria, for each step • Lesson plans that account for extensions and modifications • Grade level expectations/standards • Clearly stated objectives • Focus on meta-cognitive process
Classroom practices that are hands-on, cooperative, and culturally aligned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inquiry projects –assign student roles when working together • Multiple ways to demonstrate and activate learning; differentiated instruction • Creating varying types of environments to support success • All students engaged at each step and all students produce something
Responsiveness based on cultural knowledge of student	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different modes of assessment • Teachers ask questions/engage • Writing activities • Get-to-know-you activities • Volunteers only • Ensuring that assessment truly assesses objectives • Variety of books provided and open to recommendations so that various cultures/beliefs included
Recognition of varying rates of acculturation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers only • Respect privacy • Avoid tokenism • Inclusion of a variety of authors from a variety of cultural/ethnic backgrounds; everyone should not be expected to read the same book

Culturally Responsive Indicators	What it looks like in a classroom
Teacher self-awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equitable practices such as calling on students using name sticks, charts, etc. • Equitable practices in regards to gender, race, etc. • Being aware of our own biases • Aware of students, their needs, their styles and purposefully addressing needs during aspects of the lesson • Welcome book choices and guide students in writing their true opinions/viewpoints about something they care about

RESPONSIVE LESSON PLAN DESCRIPTORS

Cultural Competency Forum Members

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The Culturally Responsive Indicators are adapted from a review of more than 50 research articles and reports by NWREL on the most important characteristics of culturally responsive and competent educators:

- <http://www.nwrel.org/request/2005june/annotatedbib.pdf>
- <http://www.nwrel.org/request/2005june/culturally.pdf>



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