

1



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What word or phrase comes to mind after hearing this story?

4

Why is this story important?

Cultural Preservation

Connection



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What we will explore...

- levels of the multicultural curriculum approach
- various multicultural tools and strategies
- coaching strategies to apply to their own environments



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Agenda

01.

About us

Our Journey, Our Approach

02.

Multicultural Curriculum Approach

What? Why? How?

03.

Multicultural Tools & Strategies

What? Why? How?

04.

Coaching Strategies



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About Us



Community Updates

unearthingjoytogether.com



@unearthingjoytogether



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- PhD
- Educator
- Outdoor Guide

Hi, I'm Ashley

I want families and communities, especially those who have been historically excluded, to find joy in nature as I have throughout my own life.



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Honoring culture and exploring justice to unearth joy

Video: Our journey, Our approach



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Immersive Experiences

Programs for families:

- Gardening for Food Justice
- Skills for Liberation
- The Creative Arts in Nature
- Exploring the Animal Kingdom
- Farm Fridays



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Multicultural Curriculum Approach



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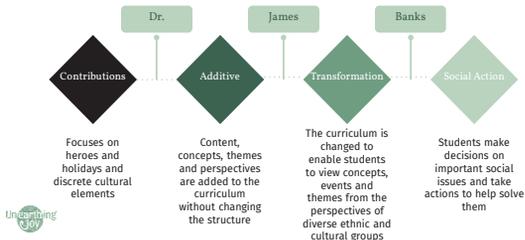
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Approaches to Multicultural Curriculum Reform



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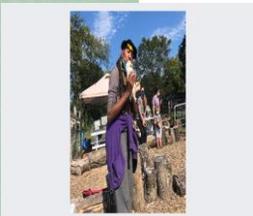
Poll: How would you classify your approach to programming or your curriculum?

1. Contributions
2. Additive
3. Transformative
4. Social Action

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What are culturally-centered nature programs?



Programs and curriculum that centers the stories and roles of Indigenous, Black and Other People of the Global Majority in nature.

Stories that are also localized as well as debunk stereotypes and images.

Challenge: Think creatively about how what is presented can be ADAPTED for your program structure or age group.

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How to create culturally-centered programs...

- 1. Examine your biases through an anti-racist lens
- 1. Shift your mindset about what counts as nature
- 1. Build trusting relationships with people in YOUR community
- 1. Create inclusive environments that honor culture and promote well-being
- 1. Transform your programming and curriculum to center narratives and roles of Indigenous, Black and other people of the global majority
- 1. Advocate for equitable structures & justice
- 1. Create an action plan to inspire joy



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Multicultural Tools & Strategies



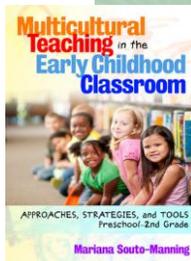
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Multicultural Teaching

"Multicultural education is about fostering and forming equitable and socially just communities." -Souto-Manning

"Multicultural education permeates schools' curriculum and instructional strategies, as well as interactions among teachers, students, and families and the very way that schools conceptualize the nature of teaching and learning." Sonia Nieto (2002)



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What are some multicultural teaching tools & strategies?

1. Multicultural Literature
2. Family & Land Stories
3. Community Culture Bearers
4. Cultural Arts
5. Technology



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Multicultural Literature

Children's books that are written by diverse authors that reflect authentic stories of diversity including race, ethnicity, gender, family structures, sexual orientation, religion, ability, etc.

WHY?

- Develop positive self-identity
- Give control of their self-image
- Exercise agency

Resource: socialjusticebooks.org

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Family & Land Stories

Stories that are grounded in the lives and experiences of our families and the families in our communities. Stories that are grounded in narratives of the land you live, work and play.

WHY?

- Reclaim narratives
- Affirm identity
- Create connections
- Foster belonging



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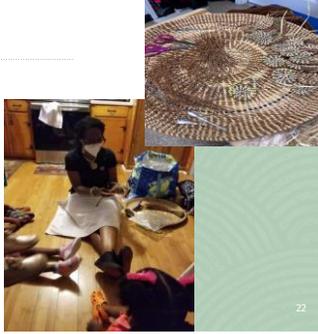
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Community Culture Bearers

"Culture bearers practice intergenerational lifeways and living, evolving cultural art practices that educate, exchange, and share in order to preserve ancestral knowledge." -McKnight Culture Bearers Fellowship

WHY?

- Reclaim narratives
- Affirm identity
- Honor ancestral knowledge



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Cultural Arts

Using art to preserve traditions.

WHY?

- Showcase various mediums
- Honor creative expression
- Honor culture



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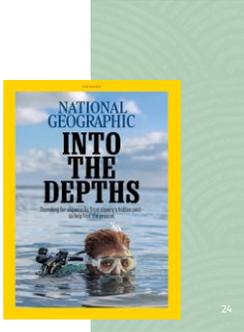
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Technology

Podcasts, Tik Toks, movies, animation

- Opportunities to connect with diverse people if you are in homogenous communities
- It's a tool

Resources: @HillaTheEarth @hiphopsociesshow



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Poll: Do you currently use any of these tools?

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How to unearth these strategies...

- Identify local cultural organizations
- Look into local museums
- ASK ASK ASK

WORKSHOPS

Using Multicultural Literature in Nature Education

Using Family & Land Stories in Nature Education

Using Community Culture Bearers in Nature Education

Using Cultural Arts in Nature Education

Using Technology to Promote Culture in Nature Education

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Coaching Strategies

Get our community updates featuring recommended books!

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Examine biases as a collective...ongoing

Use the program evaluation tool as a place to start.

Self-reflection questions in Multicultural Teaching



<https://bit.ly/evaluationhandout>

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Build in time into meetings to have intentional conversations



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Create an inclusive environment that honors culture and promotes well-being

Acknowledge

Safety

Community Building



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30

Focus on the hungry chickens



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Poll: Do you use any of these strategies?

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Culturally-centered nature-based programs

Start where you are, but don't stay there.

It's a process!

White children need inclusive programs too.

Build authentic relationships in your community.



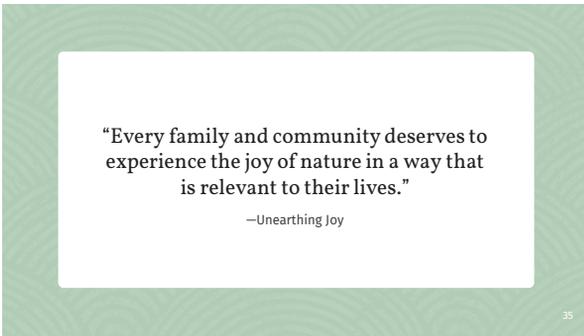
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Questions?

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“Every family and community deserves to experience the joy of nature in a way that is relevant to their lives.”

—Unearthing Joy

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Thank you

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