

Growing Anti-racist UU's: A Curriculum for Children

www.uucharlotteville.org/anti-racist-curriculum/

WE'RE DIFFERENT, WE'RE THE SAME - Lesson 1 for Preschool

Adapted by Katherine Parsons, from:

Kates, Bobbi Jane. *We're Different, We're the Same*. New York: Random House, 2017.

Adapt your story from the text. Please consider these notes from our editor as you adapt the text:

- Pay special attention to verbs and letting them hold the distinction (e.g., "Our ____ look different. Our ____ do the same thing/work the same way.")
- Avoid defining a child's emotional reality: we don't know with certainty that we're all experiencing the same emotions. Consider "Our feelings come from the same place. We can feel lonely, worried, happy, glad, or more."
- Rainbows are fun because there are many colors, avoid singling out what they miss. Remove the first sentence about rainbows.
- Avoid asking a child if they like what they see in the mirror. Try, "Go ahead, look at incredible you!"

We used stock images for our story pieces. Those that we purchased for use are included below as examples, but you will need to create more to fill out the story. Please consider these notes from our editor as you create your story pieces:

- Show a diverse range of families and people-- consider gender expression, sexuality, disability status, and race when selecting images.
- For hair, consider showing leg and arm hair as well.
- Avoid choosing images of people of color to portray negative emotions. Consider using white people for the negative emotions to avoid that association.
- Show images of entire bodies for the "bodies" images.
- Remember that the work of Pre-K is learning to identify emotions, so very sharp contrasts are helpful.

- A rainbow for many Pre-K students is only what you see in the sky-- use a photo rather than an artistic representation.

Red: Respect for the inherent worth and dignity of every person

Materials needed:

Underlay (of a shade of brown, if possible)

Picture of family or other group of people (1)

Picture of people showing different "Noses" and a picture of people smelling/sneezing (2)

Pictures of people showing different "Hair" on their head and other places (2)

Picture of people showing different "Mouths" and a picture of people smiling/talking (2)

Picture of people showing different shades of "Skin" (1)

Picture of people appearing cold or hot (1)

Picture of people highlighting muscles or bones (1)

Picture of people showing different "Eyes" (1)

Picture of people crying, winking or blinking (1)

Pictures of people showing different "Bodies" (1)

Picture of people being active, eating and/or sleeping (1)

Pictures of people showing different "Feelings" (happy, sad, scared, excited, etc) (2)

Rainbow, felt, cloth or flag (1)

Small handheld mirror

Picture of group of people of all different skin tones (1)

Now watch where I go to get our lesson for today.

Retrieve basket from its location.

I wonder what we need to get started.

Remove and spread underlay on the floor. Put a picture of different people on the underlay.

This is a story about how we are all different and wonderful.

Wondering Questions

I wonder what colors I can use to describe the color of my skin.

I wonder about people in my family. I wonder what color their eyes are.

I wonder about my friends. I wonder what color their hair is.

I wonder about other people in my neighborhood and in my church. I wonder what their feelings might be today.

I wonder how I can show respect for everyone I know and make sure they know that our bodies are wonderful just as they are!

I wonder how I can show respect for everyone I know and make sure they know that we are all beautiful and wonderful!

