

Child Diversity in the Classroom

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Multicultural Education

- **The transformation of schooling to include the needs and perspectives of many cultures in shaping the ways that children are educated.**
- **Multicultural education is about social change and awareness.**



Multi Culture in the Classroom



Statistics

- In 2020 it is estimated that 46% of students in Americas will be children from a minority group. And 20.1% of all students will live in poverty.
- The top 25 largest school districts, minority students comprised about 72% of the total school enrollment in the year 1994.
- Only eight states in America can say that their minority student scores increased on state testing.
- 248,000 students were surveyed in grades 6 through 12.
 - 84% indicated most teenagers carry some racial prejudice.
 - 45% said that they had personally experienced prejudice in the past year.

Stereotyping effects the classroom

- **Stereotype-** a simplified and standardized conception or image invested with special meaning and held in common by members of a group.
 - **Example:** Minority students are not as intelligent as the majority group in schools.



Bilingual Education

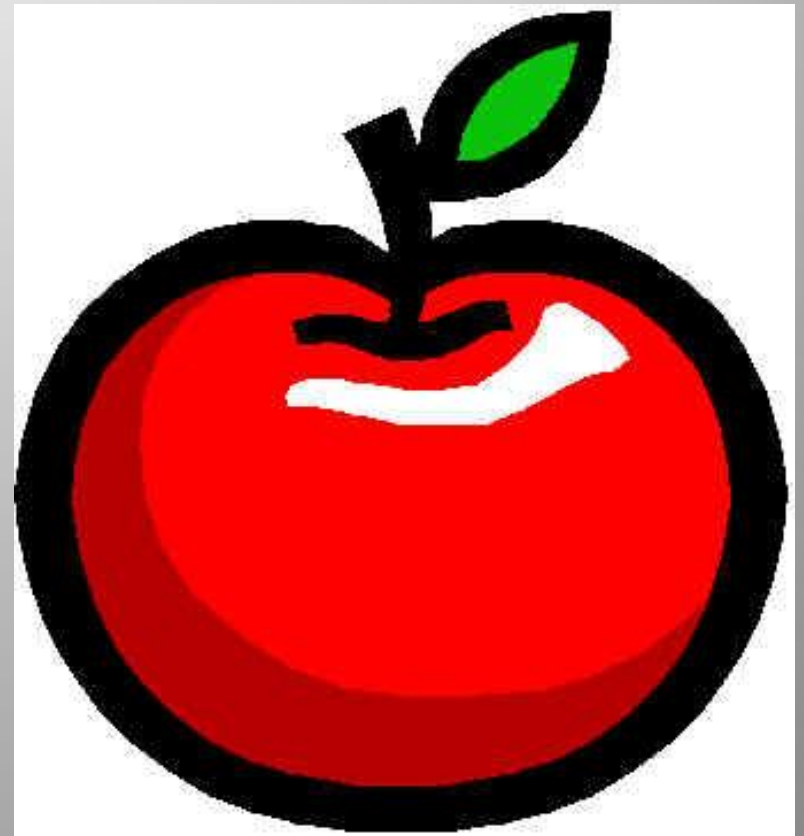
- **Design to meet the learning needs of students whose first language is not English.**
- **Bicultural -able to function effectively in two or more linguistic and cultural groups.**
- **Bilingual Education Act**
- **Equal Education Opportunity Act**
- **Debates surrounding bilingual programs**

Guidelines for multicultural instructional materials

- Should accurately portray the perspectives, attitudes, and feelings of ethnic groups
- Strong ethnic characters
- Identifiable
- Universal conflicts
- Appropriate illustrations
- No racist concepts, clichés, phrases or words
- Historically accurate
- Major events and documents related to ethnic history

Creating a Curriculum

- **Contrary to popular belief, including culture in holidays is not enough. It requires critical thinking, research, and the inclusion of various perspectives.**
- **Content Integration-** The inclusion of materials, concepts and values from a variety of cultures.
- **Integrating culture into basic subjects**
 - **For example: Ethno-mathematics**
 - **Combining mathematical thinking with culture**



Gender and Multiculturalism

- **Sex role stereotyping and sex role socialization process.**
- **Gender-Fair classrooms and curricula**
- **Woman's educational equity act of 1974**
- **Title IX**
 - **“Without a doubt, Title IX has opened doors for opportunity for generations of women and girls to compete, to achieve, and to pursue there American dreams”. US Secretary of Education Roderick Paige**

Kids in the classroom

