

CREATING CLASSROOM COMMUNITY THROUGH LITERATURE

Webinar 1

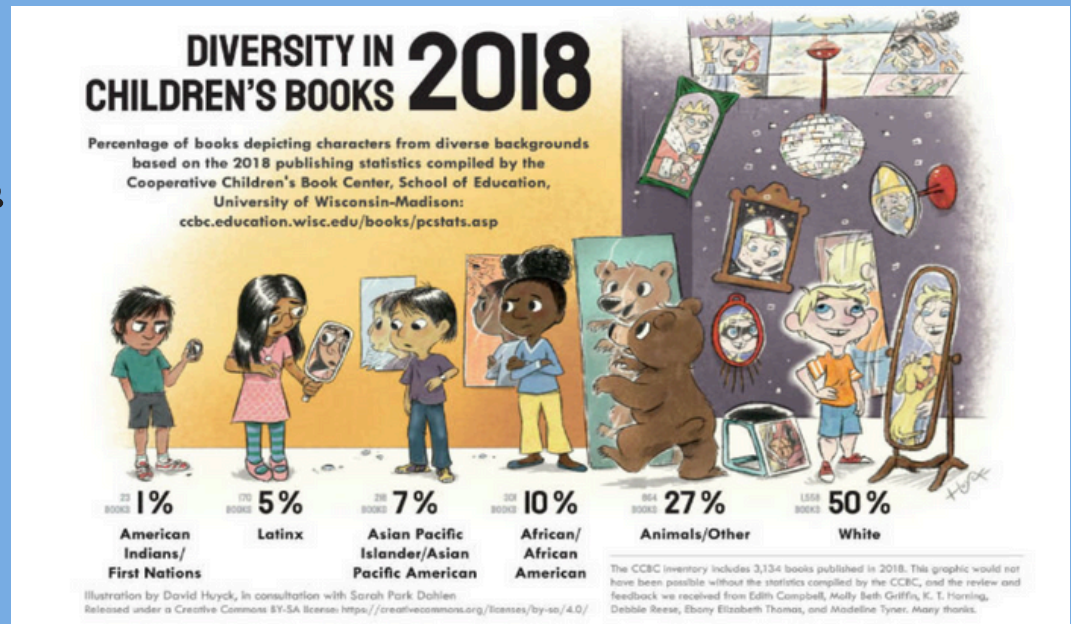
MIRRORS, WINDOWS, + SLIDING GLASS DOORS: THE IMPORTANCE OF DIVERSIFYING CLASSROOM LIBRARIES

OBJECTIVES:

- Reflect on our own reading lives
- Familiarize ourselves with data on the importance of diversifying classroom libraries
- Obtain resources to enhance your own classroom library

The Problem

Children have limited access to books that are an accurate representation of themselves and our diverse society.



“Youth need opportunities in school to explore multiple facets of selfhood, but also to learn about the identities of others who may differ. If they are going to enjoy a quality of life and live alongside other people, they must deeply know themselves and the histories and truths of other diverse people.”



Gholdy Muhammad's
Cultivating Genius (2020)

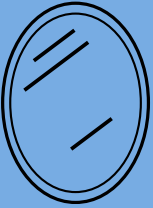
Guiding Questions

How do we help students see themselves and learn about people different from themselves through literacy?

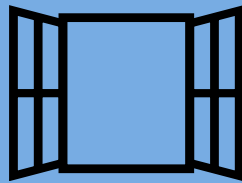
Get Started!

1

REFLECT ON YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH LITERATURE USING THE CONCEPT OF "MIRRORS, WINDOWS, AND SLIDING GLASS DOORS" (BISHOP, 1990)



MIRROR: Texts that reflect one or more aspects of a student's identity or experience.



WINDOW: Texts that offer insight into someone else's experience or world.



SLIDING GLASS DOOR: Readers can walk into a story and become part of the world.

When has a text been like a mirror, reflecting one or more aspects of your identity or experience?

How did it feel to see yourself in the story?

When has a text been like a window, offering you insight into someone else's experience or world??

What did you learn?

When has a text been like a sliding glass door, allowing you to enter and engage with another world for a moment in time?

What did you experience?

2

COMPLETE ASSESSMENT OF YOUR CURRENT CLASSROOM LIBRARY RESOURCES

Does your library reflect and mirror the students in your classroom?

Does your library expand your students' understanding and introduce them to new worlds, cultures, beliefs, and traditions?



Classroom library assessment tool:

Lee & Low Books Library Questionnaire

3

IDENTIFY RESOURCES TO BUILD YOUR CLASSROOM LIBRARY

1. We Need Diverse Books
2. Lee & Low Books
3. Pernille Ripp