

RECONCILIATION IN EDUCATION

LESSON PLAN

Fairness and equity



Teacher provocation

Watch the below video and consider Dr Fabri Blacklock's ideas about making education more equitable for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. What are some other ways that you might ensure that you are providing an equitable curriculum and environment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=elxr2R0moSg_

Links to the Curriculum

Cross curriculum priorities: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures

Links to frameworks

Educators challenge practices that contribute to inequities and make curriculum decisions that promote inclusion and participation of all children.

Inquiry Questions

- What does it mean for everyone to get the same thing?
- What does it mean to be fair?
- What does it mean to be unfair? When has someone been unfair to you?
- What is equality?
- What is equity?
- What does it mean to be included? What does it mean to be excluded?
- What sorts of things might get in the way of you being included?
- What is the difference between equality and equity and how do each contribute to inclusion (or exclusion)?

Dimensions

Equality and equity: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples participate equally in a range of life opportunities and the unique rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are recognised and upheld.

Activities

Small Bowl of Equity

In class, there are often talk of about fairness. Sometimes we hear someone say, 'That's not fair!'. This activity it asks you to talk about what fairness means by using two big new words: Equity and Equality. Those are pretty big words. Work together to come up with what those words mean.

Place the small items in a bowl, and show them to the students. "I have many ____ in a bowl." Ask students: "How should I give these out? How many should each student get? What would be fair?"

Write suggestions on the board. Try some of the methods of distribution. Ask students: "What should I do with the leftovers? Who should get them?"

After an even distribution, discuss with your students that this is equality. Each person in the class gets an even amount. Equality is sameness.

Now introduce the concept of Equity. We have learned that equality means things are equal and the same. Now we are going to talk about equity. The word 'equity' sounds a lot like equality, but it means something different.

Ask students: "Before we get started, who needs a pencil?" Pass out pencils to the students who request them.

Question the action: "Just now, was I being fair? Did I give a pencil to everyone?"

Discuss why you gave pencils only to those students who needed them. Try to work a definition: distribution based on need. Brainstorm real-world example when things are given out based on needs, not necessarily equally.

The Band aid activity

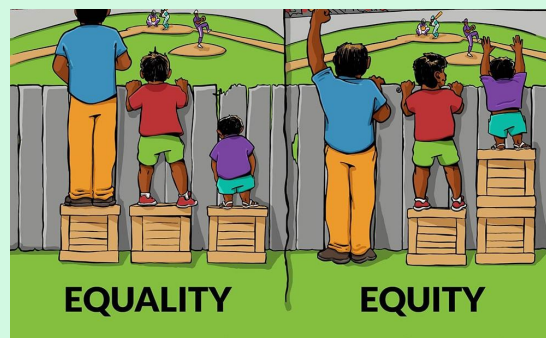
As a class, ask students to each choose a different injury - some could be a scraped knee while others might have a more significant injury like a broken leg. Now give each child a band-aid to treat their injury regardless of what it is. Talk to them about how this is equal treatment but is it fair treatment? You can find a great resource with more detail to support the Band-aid lesson [here](#)

Equality and equity in inclusive policies

Using the Narragunnawali curriculum resource (found [here](#)) work with students to understand the difference between equality and equity, and how they support inclusive and safe environments.

Sharing circle

This curriculum resource from Narragunnawali is a great way of teaching children and inclusion and equity. Go to the link below for inquiry questions, and an activity to try. <https://www.narragunnawali.org.au/curriculum-resource/58/sharing-circle-early-learning>



USEFUL RESOURCES AND LINKS

Working together to ensure equality for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the early years

This paper written by SNAICC and ECA is a great resource to build your understanding of issues in the Australian context.

Narragunnawali

The Narragunnawali platform has a wide array of resources for both students and adult learning to further your understanding of the concepts of fairness and equity

Uluru statement of the heart

Research and more thinking about the Uluru Statement of the heart can get students thinking about equity for First Nations people in Australia. You can find a study guide [here](#) to help you learn more information.