

5 Things to Know About . . . Anti-Bias Curriculum

Anti-bias education is a way of teaching that supports children and their families as they develop a sense of identity in a diverse society. It helps children learn to be proud of themselves and their families, respect a range of human differences, recognize unfairness and bias, and speak up for the rights of others.

If you are maintaining or seeking accreditation, employing an anti-bias curriculum can help with the best practices across all ten standards and improve the quality of your program.

1. Learn about the children and families in your program.

Standard 1: Relationships. Topic area 1a: the development and maintenance of positive, reciprocal relationships between educators and families, emphasizing the need for ongoing communication and sensitivity to family diversity.

Standard 4: Assessment of Child Progress. Assessments occur in the context of reciprocal communications between teachers and families.

Standard 7: Families. Right from the start, program staff should understand the kinds of families served in the program.

Article: <https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/yc/nov2016/culturally-responsive-strategies>

2. Choosing high-quality, diverse literature.

Standard 2: Curriculum. Materials that reflect not only the lives of the children and families in the program but also the diversity found in society.

Standard 9: Physical Environment. Multicultural materials that promote appreciation for diversity while being respectful of the cultural traditions, values, and beliefs of families being served.

Article: <https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/yc/may2016/culturally-responsive-classroom>

3. Notice and address Bias in Your Classroom.

Standard 3: Teaching. Topic area 3b: Creating Caring Communities for Learning. Children are protected from bias and discrimination. Teachers are responsible for assuring that any and everything in their classroom respects diversity in gender, sexual orientation, age, language, ability, race, religion, family structure, background, and culture.

Article: <https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/yc/summer2021/viewpoint-anti-racist-spaces>

4. Make a commitment to anti-bias work.

Standard 6: Staff Competencies, Preparation, and Support. The program employs and supports a teaching and administrative staff that have the qualifications, knowledge, and professional commitment necessary to promote children's learning and development and to support families' diverse needs and interests.

Article: <https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/yc/mar2016/moving-beyond-anti-bias-activities>

5. Always consider and work to achieve the four core goals of anti-bias education.

Standard 2: Curriculum. Topic area 2l: The curriculum should provide children with many opportunities to build an authentic understanding of diversity in culture, family structure, ability, language, age, and gender.

Standard 10: Leadership and Management. The oversight and execution of all the other program standards.

Article: <https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/yc/nov2019/understanding-anti-bias>