

Learning Themes for White Children

From: *What if All the Kids Are White? Anti-Bias Multicultural Education with Young Children and Families*. New York: Teachers College Press, 2006.

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The following learning themes are grounded in the four anti-bias education goals for all young children (Derman-Sparks & The ABC Task Force, 1989, *Anti-Bias Curriculum: Tools for Empowering Young Children*, Washington, DC: NAEYC):

- 1. Develop authentic identities based on personal abilities and interests, family history and culture, rather than on white superiority.**
- 2. Know, respect and value the range of the diversity of physical and social attributes among white people**
- 3. Build the capacity for caring, cooperative and equitable interactions with others.**
- 4. Understand, appreciate, and respect differences and similarities beyond the immediate family, neighborhood and center/classroom and racial group.**
- 5. Learn to identify and challenge stereotypes, prejudice and discriminatory practices among themselves and in the immediate environment.**
- 6. Commit to the ideal that all people have the right to a secure, healthy, comfortable and sustainable life and that everyone must equitably share the resources of the earth and collaboratively care for them.**
- 7. Build identities that include anti-bias ideals and possibilities and acquire skills and confidence to work together for social justice in their own classrooms and communities, and eventually in the larger society.**