

How Do Your Students Interact with Others?

The Understanding Diversity and Culture program is a series of three lessons designed to address the topic of cultural awareness. Students will learn what culture is. They will learn about building relationships with people different from themselves. This program is based on a comprehensive approach that integrates the topic of acceptance into everyday activities, and teaches children to not limit the recognition of differences to certain holidays or months.



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Understanding Diversity and Culture

A program for fourth grade students presented by
Purdue Extension—Hancock County



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Understanding Diversity and Culture

The Diversity and Culture program is designed to provide hands-on lessons and life skills that address the topic of cultural awareness and diversity to fourth grade students.

This program, adapted from the “Cultural Connections” series developed by the University of Illinois and Oregon State Extension Services, is designed to teach students about diversity, culture, prejudices and stereotypes, cross-cultural communication, and provide a more in-depth look at one culture. The three



one-hour lessons are taught by Purdue University Extension staff and scheduled to fit your needs. This program is offered at no cost to you.

Several Indiana academic standards in Science, Social Studies, and English/Language Arts are addressed by this series. A list of these standards is available from the presenters.

What is Cultural Diversity?

Eventually all students will encounter someone very different from themselves. It may be by ethnicity, religion, socio-economic background, race, gender or age. “Helping students explore a broader view of diversity provides them with the tools to build future relationships, work through difficulties and take pleasure in experiencing new cultures.”*

Students will enjoy participating in the activities!

Your students will participate in many hands-on activities as they learn about culture and diversity. As they develop their conocimiento chart they will begin to realize what makes a culture. They will spend time with their potato buddies and learn that after you get to know them, not all potatoes are alike!

Their communication skills will be challenged as they practice cross-cultural communication in a game setting. They will take a closer look at what it is like to be a child in another country as we explore Japanese customs and trends in the final session.

*From “Cultural Connections”, MC0550, University of Illinois Extension, January 2006.

How Can I Learn More?

Contact Becky Pfeifer or Katherine Wampler at the Purdue Extension—Hancock County office for more information or to bring the program in your school.



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