

Resource Guide: Cultural and Linguistic Responsiveness in Literacy

Vision:

The goal of ensuring cultural and linguistic responsiveness in literacy instruction is to encourage students to relate the lesson (course) content to their cultural context to make learning more effective, relevant, and meaningful for students. Cultural and linguistic responsiveness is the validation and affirmation of student’s home culture and language, lived experiences, frames of reference, and performance styles, particularly for students that are culturally and linguistically diverse, in order to build connections with others and provide opportunities to succeed in school and meaningfully contribute to society.

*Cultural and linguistic responsiveness (CLR) is a **lens** that should be used to look at all that we are doing in schools- organizationally and instructionally. This lens makes the case that CLR is not something that you do but **something you have in all that you do.***

*--Dr. Sharroky Hollie, *Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Teaching and Learning**

Purpose:

Just as the quote above states, being culturally and linguistically responsive is a mindset that exists in all the work of teaching and learning. Selecting the “right text” doesn’t just make your instruction culturally and linguistically responsive. The topics, texts, and connections below are meant to inspire ideas for how culturally and linguistically responsiveness can begin to exist in your classroom with recognition for the identities of your specific students. When selecting texts, you want to be sure to offer “mirrors” and “windows.”

*“Books are sometimes **windows**, offering views of worlds that may be real or imagined, familiar or strange. These windows are also sliding glass doors, and readers have only to walk through in imagination to become part of whatever world has been created and recreated by the author. When lighting conditions are just right, however, a window can also be a **mirror**. Literature transforms human experience and reflects it back to us, and in that reflection, we can see our own lives and experiences as part of the larger human experience. Reading, then, becomes a means of self-affirmation, and readers often seek their mirrors in books.” -Rudine Sims Bishop “Mirrors, Windows, and Sliding Glass Doors” originally appeared in *Perpectives: Choosing and Using Books for the Classroom*, Vo.6 no.3. Summer 1990*

Please review this with the Resource Guide for Cross-Curricular Connections as the topics listed below align.

Examples of Considerations for Cultural and Linguistic Responsiveness in Literacy 8th Grade:

Possible Topics for Building Knowledge:	Possible Texts to Foster Cultural and Linguistic Relevance in the classroom	Connections that could reinforce relevance to families and communities
Space Missions/ Scientific Advancement/ Exploration	<p>1. https://www.space.com/4422-timeline-50-years-spaceflight.html</p> <p>2. https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2019/07/12/citizen-world-nasas-first-latino-astronaut-reflects-how-space-changed-his-immigrant-identity/</p>	<p>1. Timeline and videos that reflect a brief history of space travel. Great resource to introduce a unit in space travel.</p> <p>2. Great article about the first Latino astronaut. Connection for students in NM of latinx descent who are interested in space. Also connects to high level career opportunities in New Mexico.</p> <p>3. Webstie that provides information on the major role New Mexico played in</p>

	<p>3. New Mexico’s role in space travel - http://online.nmartmuseum.org/nmhistory/growing-new-mexico/astronomy-and-space/history-astronomy-and-space.html</p> <p>4. The Veldt - Ray Bradburry</p> <p>5. Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy (Excerpts)</p> <p>6. https://www.space.com/16143-women-space-firsts-gallery.html</p> <p>7. https://www.commonlit.org/en/library?searchQuery=space%20</p> <p>8. Novels: <i>To the Moon</i>-Jeffrey Kluger and Ruby Samir <i>Hidden Figures</i>-Young Reader Edition- Shetterly, Margot Lee</p>	<p>space travel. From Native American Chaco Canyon to the present.</p> <p>4. This short story is compelling, engaging, and explores ethical questions about scientific advancement. In the story, lines between fiction and reality blur. As technology in our world advances, students can all relate to this text that stretches the imagination. Students can connect to scientific advancement topics such as virtual reality.</p> <p>5. Elon Musk recommends this 8th grade level text as one of the top 3 books he feels people should read in their lifetime - to explore horizons and think about space. Students can read key excerpts from this novel to explore thematic questions about environmental issues, technology advances, and more.</p> <p>6. Relevant to all students interested in a career in space as it highlights people from all races, genders and ethnicities who have become astronauts.</p> <p>7. Website that provides numerous grade level articles on space travel, along with assessments and writing prompts.</p> <p>8 <i>To the Moon</i> is a true story of the American Heroes on the Apollo 8 Spaceship. <i>Hidden Figures</i> is a true story of four African American female mathematicians who were essential to the success of some of the greatest moments in the space program.</p>
<p>Natural Resources and Human Impact - Land and Culture in New Mexico</p>	<p>1. <i>Land Grants and Lawsuits in Northern New Mexico</i> - Malcom Ebright</p>	<p>1. Relevant especially to families in northern New Mexico (Latinx and indigenous) with ancestral ties to land acquired during times of Spanish exploration.</p>

	<p>2. <i>Advocate for the Oppressed: Hispanos, Indians, and Genizaros and their Land in New Mexico</i></p> <p>3. <i>Mysteries and Miracles of New Mexico</i> - Jack Kutz</p> <p>4. http://online.nmartmuseum.org/nmhistory/growing-new-mexico/ranching/history-ranching.html</p> <p>5. https://www.indianpueblo.org/</p> <p>6. <i>New Mexico's Pueblo Baseball League</i> by Baker, Howell and Cordero</p>	<p>2. Relevant topics include historical context of how land was acquired by Spaniards in the 1600s; how Navajo and Plains Indians were sold into slavery and how their religious beliefs were quelled. Discusses struggles between the elite and the poor and how these issues connect to New Mexicans today</p> <p>3. Traditional stories and tales passed down from New Mexico families about folklore and beliefs exclusive to New Mexico</p> <p>4. Ranching is a big part of New Mexico's industry, use of land and is a cross-cultural and, often, a family venture.</p> <p>5. website that provides information about the Indian Pueblos of New Mexico and how they connect the land and natural resources to their everyday lives</p> <p>6. connection to how baseball began on the Pueblos and in the Indian Schools and how it grew to be a source of pride and tribal tradition.</p>
Migration	<p>1. <i>The Arrival</i> By Shaun Tan</p> <p><i>The Distance Between Us: Young Readers Edition</i> by Reyna Grande</p> <p>2. <i>A Long Walk to Water</i> by Linda Sue Park <i>Refugee</i> by Alan Gratz <i>Rising Seas</i> by Keltie Thomas</p>	<p>1. Migration is a common thread throughout human history and is also a dynamic in the animal world. Migration is inclusive of human movement for various reasons - it's likely that students, family members, and/ or members of their community have experiences and stories of migration.</p> <p>2. Human migration is influenced by political, social, economic, and environmental factors. Students explore the lens of the Sudanese people and their journey through</p>

	<p><i>Escape to Gold Mountain: A Graphic History of the Chinese in North America</i> by David H.T. Wong <i>The Distance Between Us: Young Readers Edition</i> by Reyna Grande <i>The Birchbark House</i> by Louise Erdrich</p> <p>3. "God Grew Tired of Us"</p> <p>4. The Global Oneness Project https://www.globalonenessproject.org/</p> <p>Smithsonian Museum Collections https://www.si.edu/collections</p>	<p>Africa, with major themes of war and survival.</p> <p>3. This documentary goes along with "A Long Walk to Water" and presents the non-fiction elements of the text in an age-appropriate way. Very suitable for 8th grade, but also great for exploring some tough questions including racism, genocide, and more.</p> <p>4. Viewing art as primary and secondary sources in addition to creating art related to migration is a multimodal and culturally responsive way for students to gain and express knowledge, analyze diverse resources, connections, make connections, and formulate and share ideas.</p>
<p>Energy and Impact</p>	<p>1. Sadako and Thousand Paper Cranes</p> <p>2. Hiroshima by Laurence Yep (6 - 8)</p>	<p>1. While this novel is commonly read to younger ages, it is short, and its themes are important for middle school. It could be used as a short glimpse into the impact of nuclear energy. The story is about the impacts of radiation long after the atomic bombs were dropped.</p> <p>2. From Scholastic, "From Newbery Honor award-winning author Laurence Yep comes this boldly written, fictionalized account of the bombing of Hiroshima, seen through the eyes of 12-year-old Sachi. This riveting piece of</p>

	<p>3. Hiroshima by John Hersey (</p>	<p>historical fiction tells the poignant story of a young girl and a city destroyed by war — and healed by the courage to rebuild and survive.” This novel could help students explore the impact of energy and technology on humanity.</p> <p>3. Excerpts of this novel may be appropriate for 8th graders, exploring the destruction and impact of the atomic bombs. This could be used in conjunction with “Sadako”, as both explore similar themes in different ways.</p>
<p>Early Civilizations</p>	<p>1. Sees Behind Trees by Michael Dorris</p> <p>2. https://www.albuqhistsoc.org/educators/ https://www.albuqhistsoc.org/source-documents/source-document-index/ https://www.history.com/topics/us-states/new-mexico</p>	<p>1. This coming of age novel takes place with a 16th century Native American tribe. Great cultural connections can be made, including exploration of different “coming of age” ceremonies in a variety of cultures.</p> <p>2. land grants, borders and counties, political structure, tribal autonomy, multi-cultural assimilation</p>
<p>Social and Emotional Health</p>	<p>1. <i>The Absolute Diary of a Part Time Indian</i> by Alexis Sherman</p> <p>2. <i>My Name is Not Easy</i> - Debby Dahl Edwardson (Discrimination faced by Eskimo children while enculturated into white culture, developing empathy)</p> <p>3. <i>Ghost</i> by Jason Reynolds</p>	<p>1. This novel explores the life of a teen growing up on a reservation, facing many social and emotional obstacles throughout his journey. There are definitely controversial but important themes that any 8th grader could connect to, including drugs, sexuality, and more.</p> <p>2. Discrimination faced by Eskimo children while enculturated into white culture; developing empathy; understanding identity</p>

	<p>4. Restart by Gordon Korman</p>	<p>3. <i>Ghost</i> addresses a teenager dealing with domestic abuse and persevering with the support of his school track team, friendship, and self-recognition of his own strengths and talents</p> <p>4. A popular high school teen (and bully) gets in an accident and loses his memory. He has to “start over” and face who he was in the past. This is a great novel to explore bullying, victimization, perspective, and more.</p>
--	------------------------------------	--