

Literacy development is promoted when reading, writing, listening, speaking and viewing provide the foundation for the 7 characteristics of culturally responsive teaching

1. High Expectations
SUPPORTING STUDENTS AS THEY DEVELOP THE LITERACY APPROPRIATE TO THEIR AGES AND ABILITIES
2. Positive relationships with families and communities
DEMONSTRATING CLEAR CONNECTIONS WITH STUDENT FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES IN TERMS OF CURRICULUM CONTENT AND RELATIONSHIPS
3. Cultural sensitivity
CONNECTING WITH THE STANDARDS-BASED CURRICULUM AS WELL AS INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS' CULTURAL BACKGROUNDS
4. Active teaching methods
INVOLVING STUDENTS IN A VARIETY OF READING, WRITING, LISTENING, SPEAKING, AND VIEWING BEHAVIORS THROUGHOUT THE LESSON PLAN
5. Teacher as facilitator
PRESENTING INFORMATION, GIVING DIRECTIONS, SUMMARIZING RESPONSES, AND WORKING WITH SMALL GROUPS, PAIRS, AND INDIVIDUALS
6. Student control of portions of the lesson
TALKING AT CONVERSATION LEVELS AROUND THE TOPIC STUDIED WHILE COMPLETING ASSIGNMENTS IN SMALL GROUPS, PAIRS AND INDIVIDUALS
7. Instruction around groups and pairs to create low anxiety
COMPLETING ASSIGNMENTS INDIVIDUALLY, BUT USUALLY IN SMALL GROUPS OR PAIRS WITH TIME TO SHARE IDEAS AND THINK CRITICALLY ABOUT THE WORK

Culturally responsive instruction helps to create classroom learning environments that celebrate languages and culture.