

Sparking Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Conversations Through a Virtual Book Club

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Introduction...

Classrooms are becoming more diverse & educators are not aware of their own cultural biases and assumptions, which could result in their attitudes impeding the teaching and learning process (Gay, 2010)

Results to Date...

Eight of the original 19 teachers participated in the full four week series



Series was useful for my teaching (M = 4.6/5.0)



Implemented ideas from this series in my program (M = 4.4/5.0)

Implemented changes to program -

"I am trying to incorporate more group discussion and projects that celebrate students' diversity and heritage."

"I now set high expectations for my classes especially when it comes to inappropriate jokes. I have used examples from the book club to enhance the discussion. I also choose to play different types of music in between classes."

"Honestly, this year has been so crazy we have not changed much, just keeping our heads above water. But we did have a virtual FFA meeting with students in Washington State to learn a little about their experiences in agriculture/FFA."

How it works...

- **Select Book** - we chose *What If: Short Stories to Spark Inclusion and Diversity Dialogue* by Steve L. Robbins
- **Decide length** - ours was four consecutive weeks with only 3 short stories on the reading list each week (a set from each book section)
- **Ship books** - teachers provided their mailing address so books and bookmarks (with reading list) could be shipped out in advance
- **Send reminders and follow-up emails** - teachers were sent reminders and follow-up reflection emails before/after each session

Resources Needed...

Total costs for 19 teachers was \$478.33, price includes:

- Books
- Bookmarks - printed with reading list
- Shipping

