

**Parent Professional Partnership Project**

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The topic I will be discussing in my project is Multicultural Awareness. Multicultural awareness is a subject that is very close to my heart. As an American girl growing up with two parents from Peru that barely knew any English, I would say this is close to me. Growing up, I learned most of my English at school because my parents were also learning it at the same time as me. Not only was I in an English as a Second Language class rather than Language Arts with the rest of my class, I was an outcast because I looked “different.” So, I did not have a lot of friends as a child. That is why I believe it is important to learn about different cultures at such a young age, so that one does not have to make anyone feel like an outcast, and to just have the knowledge that there is a whole entire world out there. Yes, someone may be from somewhere else but instead of judging them, we should get to know the culture, what it is all about, and have some fun while learning about each other. I feel it is important to partner with parents on this topic of multicultural awareness because I have a little perspective on the subject. Parents seem to understand it when it is coming from me because I was once a child in a very awkward situation so I do feel I am the perfect person to have this discussion with families. I think it is important to share with families about where I am from as well as others to share where they are from. It is important to get to know each and every family's culture so that we can include it and learn about it in the classroom. At the initial home visit, I like to ask “get to know you” questions, which are simple questions as if one were getting to know a friend, and it helps the awkward “home visit” situation and meeting for the first time. I also include in my “About me” that I send home with the first home visit where I am from and a little background on me, so that way they know that I am bilingual and their child will be learning some Spanish. It is also great to just share some multicultural books. Every week in my weekly newsletter that I send home to the parents I include some homework for the children to work on over the weekend or during the week if they

have time, and at this time I can include some multicultural books so they can get to know them along with their child. The best way to partner on this topic is just to show them. For example, we can have a “book night” where everyone logs on to their computer at the same time and we read a book together as a class. That would be a good way to introduce multicultural awareness not only to the children but to the families as well. Also, planning an activity to go along with a multicultural book would help everyone understand a bit better.

## Plan of Action

My goal for the classroom and families is for everyone to get a better understanding of why we incorporate multiculturalism into the classroom at such a young age. My goal is to broaden the minds of young children and introduce multiculturalism, to learn about other cultures, and to have fun while doing it!

**Week 1-** Meet with co-teachers to discuss some ideas for how to incorporate multicultural culture into our classroom. Think about how many children we have, and how many people would be willing to participate in not only GSRP but also the entire center to make it beneficial for the entire school.

**Week 3-** Give Parents some hand-outs in their weekly newsletters to help them understand better what we do in the classroom and how we incorporate it (NAEYC, 2019).

**Week 5-** Set up some *Homework* assignments as multicultural books, so that the children can read with their family and then we can read in as a class and compare and connect how they did at home. Maybe mom or dad had a story about a friend or family member who was from a different culture that a child will share with us while we read it as a class.

**Week 6-** Send home multicultural projects/crafts so the children can participate with their families at home. Some examples are as follows:

FirstPalette.com. (n.d.). Chinese red envelope template: Free printable templates & coloring pages. Chinese Red Envelope Template | Free Printable Templates & Coloring Pages | FirstPalette.com. Retrieved February 18, 2022, from <https://www.firstpalette.com/printable/red-envelope.html>

Multicultural Art Archives. KinderArt. (n.d.). Retrieved February 18, 2022, from <https://kinderart.com/category/art-lessons/multic/>

**Week 7-** STAR of the week. Start STAR of the book (Sharer of Titles Around the Room). Each week a different student will be considered STAR of the week, and they get to bring in 4-four books from their house that represent their culture or who they are and what they love as a family.

**Week 10-** Create an event. Multicultural Night!

All parents/families are welcome to participate but it is NOT required. The participating families must choose a different culture from around the world, and they can either share a book that represents that culture, or share a craft, or just discuss their findings on research with the class. It

will be held via Zoom so everyone will be in the comfort of their own home. Multicultural clothing is encouraged for dressing up!

**Week 11-** Create a list of all the crafts and books that were shared during multicultural night so that all the parents/families can have all of them.

**End of the year-** Create a multicultural book bag for the summer. Before entering Kindergarten, the preschoolers should not forget what they learned. So, inside the book bag will be books, materials for crafts, websites, and many crafts with step -by- step directions so they can have a fun-filled summer but also not forget about all the cultures they learned about in the classroom.

## Marketing Plan

In Week 3 of my action plan, I talked about some websites I could include in my newsletter that I could send to parents. In Week 5, I said I would add to my newsletter as homework Multicultural books, and in Week 6, I said I could add some activities the parents could do at home. It will be spread out in different weeks but this is how it will appear in our newsletter:

Families: Here are some websites we found to help us understand more about multiculturalism in the classroom. Over the next couple weeks, we will be discussing new cultures and different parts of the world and will eventually lead us to a much bigger project we had in mind that will include families as well (a multicultural night!) (NAEYC, 2019)

We are also sending home some multicultural crafts that you can do at home! We will be doing a lot of crafts in the classroom as well, but we love to include our families :). So come join in the fun!

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Multicultural Art Archives. KinderArt. (n.d.). Retrieved February 18, 2022, from <https://kinderart.com/category/art-lessons/multic/>

### *Homework:*

*This week we are learning about different cultures so for homework, I have added three books you can read with your child. All three books are included on our Epic website, so you can just log in and read it digitally! Remember it is free for all GSRP Families.*

- 1. If You're Happy and You Know It By: Anna McQuinn*
- 2. Oscar Seeks a Friend By: Pawel Pawlak*
- 3. Boundless Sky By: Amanda Addison*

In Week 10 I talked about creating an event called Multicultural Night and I will send parents a flyer that will look like this:

# MULTICULTURAL NIGHT



Join us in our first ever Multicultural Night!

**What:** Every family can choose a different culture from around the world, they can either share a book that represents that culture, or share a craft, or just discuss their findings on research with the class (once you know which culture you will be presenting, tell your teachers so there is variety).

**Where:** It will be held via Zoom so everyone will be in the comfort of their own home.

(INSERT LINK HERE)

**Who:** All GSRP Families in Wee Discover

**When:** January 1st, 2022

Dressing up in cultural clothing is encouraged! (This event is optional)

## Resources

Need	Resource	How will you get it, ask for it?
People to donate bags to complete this project	Bags	Ask my college to search their classrooms for extra bags they can donate to my classroom for this project.
Book donations	Books	Ask the Libraries around me to donate some multicultural books to the classroom.
People to donate some kind of crafting material	Craft Materials	GSRP Budget/Parents. I will ask my manager to see if we can get some materials with our funding. I will also ask the parents if they have any materials laying around their house but not to go out and buy anything.
Families to come together and share different websites of their own they have tried	Websites	Ask colleges and families around my classroom and center. Families can share different resources with each other. I can look into getting a paid app for everyone to participate in.



## **Overall Goals and Conclusion**

### **Project Goals**

Type 2- Communication

Type 3-Volunteering

Type 4- Learning at Home

Type 6- Collaboration

### **Project Expected Outcomes**

Type 2- Communication: Communicate with the parents at their home visits about where they are from. I can start by sharing where I am from first, and provide them with my “about me.”

Type 3- Volunteering: Have parents volunteer as a guest reader via Zoom (optional) and read the class a multicultural book.

Type 4- Learning at Home: Send home fun multicultural projects for families to work on with their child at home.

Type 6- Collaboration: Send out a survey to the parents asking them what we can do to further their children’s multicultural needs. We can provide field trip suggestions, as well as different types of books for them to choose from. Then, we can actually plan a field trip based off of the survey.

## References

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FirstPalette.com. (n.d.). Chinese red envelope template: Free printable templates & coloring pages. Chinese Red Envelope Template | Free Printable Templates & Coloring Pages | FirstPalette.com. Retrieved February 18, 2022, from <https://www.firstpalette.com/printable/red-envelope.html>

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Epic! Creations Inc. (2013). Instantly access over 40,000 of the best books & videos for kids on Epic. Epic - Books for Kids. <https://www.getepic.com/>