



A collaboration of KidsREADY Catawba, Children's Resource Center, & Catawba County Partnership for Children

Catawba County  
Early Childhood Educator  
Professional Development Opportunity:

## “Imagining Equity”

What does it mean to teach about equity with children younger than five?

Quality standards for early education settings require classrooms to have multi-ethnic/diverse/inclusive materials available to children in all the learning centers & areas where the children interact and play. That’s an important step, but it is also important not to stop there. Adults who care for our youngest are an important part of the solution. Adults who provide such intimate care (feeding, clothing, cleaning, and nurturing) must be careful to do so without bias or prejudice.

How can conversations begin that will allow open minds to consider interactions with children while also planting equity seeds in children?

Quality children’s books offer an essential strategy to provide context to some of the important themes of equity. Good children’s books provide not only beautiful illustrations but also the opportunity to help the reader (teacher) reflect on their own implicit biases while simultaneously planting equity seeds in the children listening.

### What We’re Offering

An Opportunity:

In an effort to create support and a source of teaching practices for Catawba County’s Early Childhood preschool-age workforce, we have created 4 interactive virtual “Book Studies,” in which participants will view a selection of children’s books related to 4 themes:

1. Everyone deserves respect, not just our friends.
2. Don’t be colorblind. It’s OK to talk respectfully & with gratitude about how we are different.
3. We are more alike than we are different.
4. It’s good to be different; we’re better together.

During each session, the participants can expect to engage in conversations on research-driven information that supports each theme. The goal is to inform pedagogy and practices, as well as to *encourage a safe and interactive space that supports early childhood educators’ current knowledge.*



## What to Expect

Resources:

- Each participating program will receive **a set of the children’s books that are highlighted in the training**, that can be used in the classrooms of the teachers who receive the training.
- An orientation on social justice and representation when utilizing the featured children’s book titles.
- Information on how to utilize a Culturally Responsive Scorecard when selecting additional books for their classroom themes and focuses.

Questions? Contact La’Gentry Ross, Children’s Resource Center’s Early Childhood Services Coordinator [lross@catawbacountync.gov](mailto:lross@catawbacountync.gov) OR 828-695-6514.

### LIST OF IMAGINING EQUITY BOOKS:

Classroom	Title	Author	ISBN Number *
Preschool	All Kinds of People	Shelley Rotner	9780823439720
Infants	American Babies	The Global Fund for Children	9781580892803
Toddlers	Baby Dance	Ann Taylor	9780694012060
Toddlers	Be Boy Buzz	bell hooks	9781484788400
Infants	Bitty Brown Babe	Deborah LeFalle	9781506448534
Toddlers	Busy Fingers	C.W. Bowie	9781580890489
Toddlers	Carry Me (Bilingual - Hmong)	Star Bright Books	9781595728135
Preschool	Chocolate Me!	Taye Diggs	9781250207852
Infants	Clap Hands	Helen Oxenbury	9780689819841
Toddlers	Eating the Rainbow (bilingual - Spanish)	Star Bright Books	9781595722034
Twos	Every Little Thing	Bob Marley	9781452142906
Preschool	Everyone Matters	Pat Thomas	9780764145179
Toddlers	Everywhere Babies	Susan Meyers	9780152053154
Toddlers	Girl of Mine	Jabari Asim	9780316735780
Infants	Global Babies (Bilingual)	The Global Fund for Children	9781580892506
Infants	Global Baby Boys	Maya Ajmera	9781580894401
Preschool	Hairs: Pelitos	Sandra Cisneros	9780780783065
Twos	Hey, Black Child	Useni Eugene Perkins	9780316360296
Twos	Homemade Love	bell hooks	9781484799352
Twos	I Can Do It Too!	Karen Baicker	9780811875608
Twos	Kiss by Kiss	Richard Van Camp	9781459816213

Twos	Look at Me!	Rachel Fuller	9781786281524
Infants	Mi Dia: My Day	Rhea Wallace	9781683420026
Preschool	Mixed: A Colorful Story	Arree Chung	9781250142733
Toddlers	More More More	Vera B. Williams	9780688156343
Infants	My Face Book (Vietnamese/English)	Star Bright Books	9781595724236
Toddlers	My Hair is Beautiful!	Shauntay Grant	978-1771087667
Twos	My Heart Fills with Happiness	Monique Gray Smith	9781459809574
Twos	One Love	Cedella Marley	9781452138558
Toddlers	Peekaboo Morning	Rachel Isadora	9780399251535
Twos	Pretty Brown Face	Andrea Davis Pinkney	9780152006433
Preschool	Say Hello!	Rachel Isadora	9780399256325
Twos	Shades of Black	Sandra L. Pinkney	9780439802512
Twos	Skin Again	bell hooks	9781484799239
Infants	Smile!	Roberta Grobel Intrater	9780590058995
Infants	Splash!	Roberta Grobel Intrater	9780439420051
Toddlers	Ten Little Fingers Ten Little Toes	Mem Fox	9780547870069
Twos	Ten Tiny Babies	Karen Katz	9781442413948
Preschool	The Skin You Live In	Michael Tyler	9780975958001
Infants	Tickle Tickle	Helen Oxenbury	9780689819865
Preschool	Two Eyes A Nose A Mouth	Roberta Grobel Intrater	9780590482486
Preschool	We're Different, We're the Same	Bobbi Kates	9780593378168
Infants	Welcome Song for Baby	Richard Van Camp	9781551436616
Preschool	What's the Difference	Doyin Richards	9781250107091
Preschool	Whoever You Are	Mem Fox	9781328895813
Toddlers	Whose Knees are These	Jabari Asim	9780316454292
Infants	Whose Toes are Those	Jabari Asim	9780316454322
Preschool	You Hold Me Up	Monique Gray Smith	9781459821750

\* Includes link to recording of book, if available.