Using Their Words: Six Elements of Social Justice Curriculum Design for the Elementary Classroom

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Abstract

This article provides a framework of six elements of social justice curriculum design for elementary classrooms. The elements move from students learning self-love and knowledge about who they are and where they come from to learning respect for people different from themselves. Students explore social injustice, learn about social movements, raise awareness, and engage in activism. By addressing all six elements, students develop an analysis of oppression and tools to take action. The elements help teachers visualize social justice education by providing examples of projects, making social justice in K-6 settings accessible, practical, and achievable.

Keywords

social justice; curriculum design; elementary education; multicultural education

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The elementary social studies curriculum you choose and how you present it can play a big role in how students retain the information from their lesson. TCI wants to make education both fun and impactful. Our online Social Studies Alive! programs teach students about the world around them and how our cultures were created through interesting and engaging activities and lessons. You probably already know that elementary kids don’t get excited by sitting at a desk and listening to a lecture, quietly reading from an elementary school social studies textbook, taking notes, and then having to take ... In a series of Social Studies Skill Builders, students learn four skills for making new friends. Reading Further: The First Thanksgiving. 5. How Do I Solve Problems with Others? Political Beliefs Politics Social Studies Classroom Personal Library Social Justice Classroom Decor Elementary Schools Homeschool Teaching. Liz Kleinrock on Instagram: “Currently exploring #diversity with my 4th graders. At the beginning of the year, my class spends days considering their own identities and...”  Five years in the making, A People’s Curriculum for the Earth is a collection of articles, role plays, simulations, stories, poems, and graphics to help breathe life into teaching about the environmental crisis. The book features some of the best articles from Rethinking Schools magazine alongside classroom-friendly readings on climate change, energy, water, food, and pollution as well as on people who are working to make things better. Social Justice Instruction and Teaching Practices in the Elementary Setting covers the historical perspective of social justice in schools, in general, followed by in elementary schools, and... Using their words: Six elements of social justice curriculum design for the elementary classroom. International Journal of Multicultural Education, 14(1), 1–17. Google Scholar. Picower, B. (2012b). Practice what you teach: Social justice education in the classroom and the streets. New York: Routledge. Google Scholar. Schultz, B. (2003).