

3-2-1 GUEST TEMPLATE

Name: Courtney Stalwick Title or Topic: Belonging Date: September 21/21

3 Big Takeaways, New Understandings

Names - The importance of using and saying someones name correctly. Taking the time to acknowledge someones name (given or preferred) name and taking the time to learn and practice how to say it correctly is important in recognising part of their identity and who they are as an individual. By using the correct name you are giving that person a sense of belonging.

Danger in information (stories) we share with students. Providing students with a wide variety of inclusive, anti-bias, and culturally diverse resources such as books. By providing a wide variety of resources this will allow students of all backgrounds to see themselves represented, helping create that connection and reinforcing their sense of belonging.

Really Listening - telling a child you believe them. Really showing the child that you are listening to them and while also teaching them and helping them through what they have experienced. Using it as a time to help the student reflect on what they are telling you while also giving them the feeling of being heard and respected.

2 Connections

One connection from when I was in primary school, would be the resources used in class. From what I can recall they were primarily heavily representing white children in the picture books, there weren't representations of different abilities, and looking back on some of the children's books I can remember reading where all written primarily by white males. (this would relate to the danger in the information we provide to our students).

Second connection would be the use of names, I know some people from different cultures and origins who have a "Canadian name" as I knew it. I had first heard of this in University, and I thought it so strange to even think of having to choose a new name after moving to a foreign place. You've lost the sense of belonging by moving to away from your home, where you felt that sense of belonging and now you have to choose a new name to accommodate others. To me that is just another way to strip a little more of that sense of belonging and identity from someone.

1 Question

Where can educators find good, reliable, anti-bias resources for our classroom libraries?

