

Culturally Responsive Instruction for Native American Students

We recommend teachers use problem/place-based activities in their classroom to integrate culturally responsive principles. Here are the steps followed in the problem/place-based activity shown in the PD video. Teachers may follow these steps or adapt them for their own classroom.

Interdisciplinary Problem/Place-based Activity

1. Research relevant issues in the local community through discussions with community members and students
2. Develop and share a problem statement with students
3. Develop and share a question to guide students' inquiry
4. In small groups, students discuss what information they need to gather - what specific questions they have
5. Each student chooses one of the questions generated by their group to research
6. Students research their question (with help from peers if they choose) and present their findings back to their group. This research usually includes interaction with the community.
7. Groups share their collective work, including documentation of their process and findings, on a class wall
8. Students give one another feedback on their work
9. Groups revise their work and put it in a presentation
10. Groups present their projects to the class, parents, and selected community members
11. Students do individual write ups of their project, focused on their contribution and learning