



EQUITY NEWS

Cardinal Forest—Equity & Cultural Responsiveness Team

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Our “Why”

The Equity and Cultural Responsiveness (ECR) team provides division wide support in implementing culturally responsive practices for all stakeholders of Fairfax County Public Schools. **ECR is dedicated to raising student achievement and eliminating gaps in opportunity and achievement for all students.**

Disproportionality among Black Student Suspensions Compared to Non-Black Students

This article from Virginia Department of Education’s Quarterly Research Bulletin focuses on sustainable strategies to reduce out-of-school time due to exclusionary discipline.

Read the full Research Brief [here](https://www.virginiaisforlearners.virginia.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/vdoe-quarterly-research-feb2020.pdf) or cutting and pasting the link:
<https://www.virginiaisforlearners.virginia.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/vdoe-quarterly-research-feb2020.pdf>

Award-Winning Children's Books for Black History Month



Suggested Lesson Plan Template and Activity Guide for Classrooms: Created by Dr. Janice Underwood, Chief Diversity Officer for the Commonwealth of VA. Available [here](#).

Black History Month Library– Google Slide with links to many YouTube read alouds: [here](#).

Black History Makers– Google slides with 30 important African American figures. Available [here](#)

21 Award-winning Children’s Books for Black History Month- All of these books are great for classroom reading.

Equity VA

5 STRATEGIES FOR SUPPORTING RACIALLY MARGINALIZED STUDENTS

01

Commit to Equity and Anti-racism: consciously and deliberately act to eliminate the gap between the goal of high levels of achievement for all students, and the policies, practices, and structures within a school system that may perpetuate inequities based on race.

02

Build Culturally Competency: develop individual and organizational knowledge, attitudes, and practices to create culturally responsive learning environments that expect and support high academic achievement for ALL learners.

03

Student-Centered Learning: identify, develop, and systematically apply instructional practices that make a significant difference in the education of children of color.

04

Strategic Family Engagement: engage families as essential thought partners in supporting academic achievement for learners from all racial groups.

05

Community Collaboration: partner with local organizations to promote and achieve racially integrated schools where students and families from diverse racial backgrounds feel welcomed, supported, and experience academic success.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- [Anti-Racist Work in Schools: Are You in it for the Long Haul? \(Teaching Tolerance\)](#)
- [Understanding Culturally Responsive Teaching \(New America\)](#)
- [What Anti-racism Really Means for Educators \(Teaching Tolerance\)](#)

For more information visit: www.VirginiaIsForLearners.virginia.gov/EdEquityVA

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