

Actively Anti-Racist

Barton Lab VU

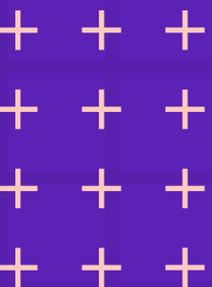
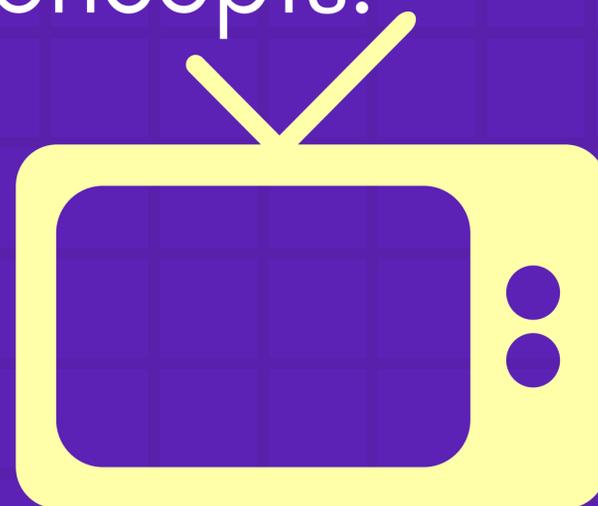
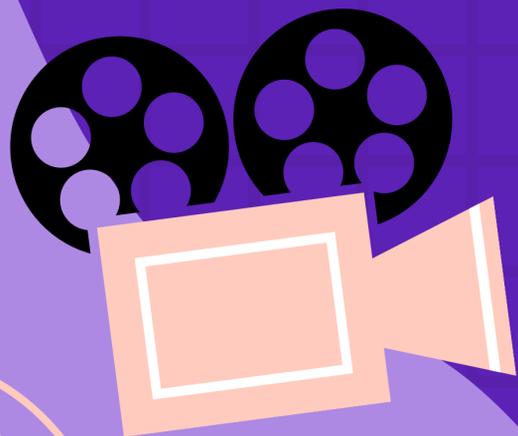
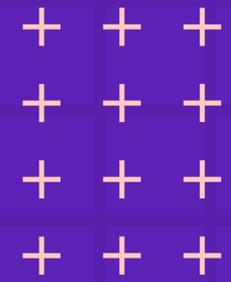
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**USING MEDIA TO
SUPPORT
CONVERSATIONS
ABOUT RACE WITH
YOUNG CHILDREN**



MEDIA AS A GUIDE

Media (books, movies, TV, music, toys, etc.) can be used to support conversations with children about race. These sources provide language that can be used to describe race, identity, injustice, equity, and more in a way that young children can understand. Referring to content in media provides children with a more concrete representation of these challenging concepts.

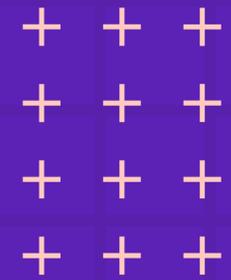
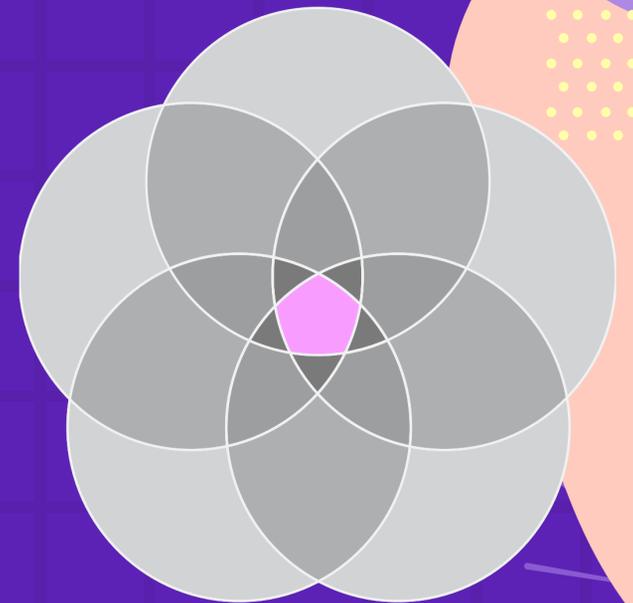


A STARTING POINT

It is important to have a collection of media sources that represent a diverse group of people with different identities.

Children use media to build their beliefs about themselves and others so representation is important for children to develop a positive self-identity.

Diversity in media both allows children to identify with characters that are like them and allows children to acknowledge and appreciate the differences between people.



DIVERSITY

A person's identity is made up of many parts, so it's important to include diverse media across a variety of categories.

Race

Socio-economic status

Sexual orientation

Religion

Gender

Disability

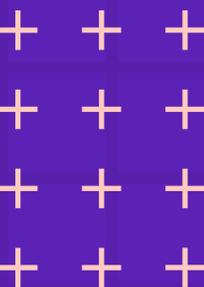
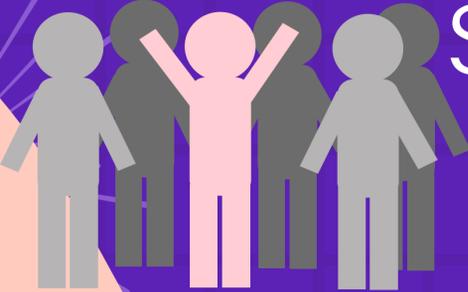
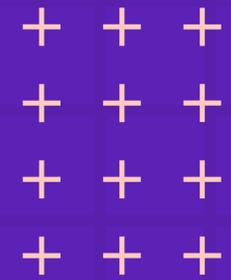
Ethnicity

HOW TO USE MEDIA

Having a collection of media sources that represent diversity in characters and contexts is the first step in promoting positive identity development and an awareness of the identities of other people.

Supporting children in consuming media:

- Make positive comments about both similarities and differences between the child and characters. Highlighting both helps prevent "othering."
- Answer questions they have about differences honestly and accurately.
- Point out stereotypes and unfair treatment. Ask the child how that character may feel to be treated that way and what they could do to help.
- Relate content in media to previous conversations you've had about diversity.



RESOURCES

Clark, K. (2013, July 9). Diversity in children's media is more than just race or gender. Fred Rogers Center for Early Learning and Children's Media at Saint Vincent College. Retrieved 24 July 2020 from <https://www.fredrogerscenter.org/2013/07/diversity-in-childrens-media-is-more-than-just-race-or-gender/>

Levinson, J. (2020, March 5). Why diversity in children's media is so important. Psychology in Action. Retrieved 24 July, 2020 from <https://www.psychologyinaction.org/psychology-in-action-1/2020/3/5/why-diversity-in-childrens-media-is-so-important>