READING DIVERSITY LITE (TEACHER'S EDITION): A TOOL FOR SELECTING DIVERSE TEXTS

Use this checklist to enhance reading diversity in your classroom.

Title _____ Author _____ Grade level _____ Lexile score _____

1. What voices does this text include in terms of race, ethnicity, gender, class, age, ability, religion, place, immigration status or LGBT identity?
   Do the identities or experiences of the author(s), illustrator(s), character(s), speaker(s) or narrator(s) contribute to students' diverse reading experiences?   YES ☐   NO ☐

2. Does this text accurately reflect lived experiences in terms of setting, characters, speakers, events, language and illustrations?   YES ☐   NO ☐

3. Consider the author's attitudes, beliefs and point of view. Do they promote inclusion and equality?   YES ☐   NO ☐

4. Does the content perpetuate or rely on stereotypes, generalizations or misrepresentations?   YES ☐   NO ☐
   (Note: A text may address a stereotype without relying on it.)

5. Consider the gaps and silences.
   Are certain people or groups left out or given only a silent or insubstantial role?   YES ☐   NO ☐

   Are certain questions or issues related to the topic omitted?   YES ☐   NO ☐

6. Does this text pair well with other texts that students encounter at school, home, in the media and through cultural transmission?   YES ☐   NO ☐

7. Consider the historical, social and cultural context in which the text was written. Is the text relevant now?   YES ☐   NO ☐

8. Does this text mirror the identities and experiences of my students?   YES ☐   NO ☐

9. Might this text be a window into the identities and experiences of people whose lives are different than my students' lives?   YES ☐   NO ☐

10. Does this text connect with the interests and concerns of my students?   YES ☐   NO ☐

11. Does this text relate to and build upon the knowledge my students bring with them?   YES ☐   NO ☐

12. Does this text work toward goals within the four domains of anti-bias education:
    Identity: Promote a healthy self-concept and exploration of identity   YES ☐   NO ☐

    Diversity: Foster intergroup understanding   YES ☐   NO ☐

    Justice: Raise awareness of prejudice and injustice   YES ☐   NO ☐

    Action: Motivate students to act by highlighting individual and collective struggles against injustice   YES ☐   NO ☐

13. How might this text motivate, engage or enable my students?

_____

I will use this text in my instruction to [indicate task].

_____

I will not use this text in my instruction because [indicate reason].

_____

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