

## **Diversity and Stereotypes**

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### **Synopsis**

My curriculum unit is a beginning of the year unit for second grade but could be modified to be used in other elementary grade levels as well. The purpose of my unit is to get children to see early on that they are accountable for their own learning and what works for them academically and individually is not what will work for everyone. I have had children use the excuse before that they do not need to do any more work because “so and so is only doing \_\_\_\_\_.” I have to explain to students that expectations are different and that they should do the work the teacher asks of them without worrying about others because everyone is working at a different pace. It is important for teachers to differentiate and this unit allows students to see that the expectations are different sometimes. This unit uses songs, drama, reading, writing, Socratic seminar, technology, group work, community member visits and family connections to promote respect and equity in the classroom through eight classroom activities. By the end of the unit, the children should be able to justify why everyone in class does not do the same thing and why it is ok if their assignment/expectations are different from others.