

I believe inclusion to be a positive working environment where all learners are welcome. One where everyone is accepting of one another and understanding of our differences. These differences may include our appearances, cultural backgrounds/upbringings, or learning styles. I have tailored a variety of my lesson plans, as well as my unit plan for this course, to be accommodating and appreciative of every student in my classroom. I plan to encourage and motivate my students to learn from, and support one another throughout their learning journey. For example my unit plan is about learning about ourselves and those around us. We touch on traditions practiced amongst families and cultures. Which gives everyone an opportunity to feel involved, expressive, and an opportunity to learn from their peers first hand. My ideas about inclusion are reflected in my assessment portfolio as I have listed sharing circles as an assessment tool FOR learning. Sharing circles provide a wide range of opinions and perspectives to be shared. I plan to make it clear to my students that there is no wrong answer when it is their turn to share. I plan to encourage my students to engage in discussions where I can observe their overall understanding of a given topic. These discussions will be facilitated but with minimal guidance. My students will be engaging in conversations with one another as well as providing positive feedback to each other. These processes will allow for a positive and inclusive learning environment. Another way that I have incorporated inclusion into my unit plan is through my UDL section. By adjusting my lessons and adapting to my learners I believe that I am valuing inclusion in my teaching. By prioritizing learners that are auditory, kinesthetic, visual and so on, I am actively participating in and incorporating inclusion.