



ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

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Launch!

Begin by selecting an essential question (EQ) that aligns to your instructional goals. Questions like “What makes us who we are?” (Identity) and “How do communities become diverse?” (Diversity) drive inquiry and student connection with content.

Check out *Perspectives for a Diverse America*—our new FREE curriculum!

BY ADRIENNE VAN DER VALK

WHAT'S MORE EXCITING than starting a really great project? Finishing it, of course! ¶ Teaching Tolerance has always provided quality anti-bias social justice lessons and teaching tools, and for years our community had been asking for a full curriculum. The widespread adoption of the Common Core State Standards offered an opportunity for TT to meet this need: Why not go beyond the Common Core and offer an option that *also* aligns to learning targets that reduce prejudice, promote equity and support intergroup relations? ¶ Three years, 300 texts, 130 tasks and strategies, and 20 anchor standards later, *Perspectives for a Diverse America* is ready—and we can't wait for our community to begin exploring!

“I see concrete, practical ways to make everyday teaching culturally relevant.”
—PILOT TEACHER

“I love the ability to tie the CCSS and Anti-bias Framework together. Great UBD design.”
—PILOT TEACHER

What is *Perspectives*?
Perspectives is a literacy-based, anti-bias, social justice curriculum that is aligned to the Common Core State Standards for Language Arts and Literacy standards—and to the Teaching Tolerance Anti-bias Framework (ABF), a groundbreaking set of anti-bias standards. Its Web-based modular design allows for maximum flexibility, customization and differentiation. Use it to plan one lesson or integrate it throughout your scope and sequence.

Why *Perspectives*?
Perspectives is ideal for educators who embrace both social justice values and backward planning. The curricular elements are aligned to the four domains of the ABF: Identity, Diversity, Justice and Action. Using the anchor standards and grade-level outcomes of the ABF for backward planning allows you to engage a spectrum of social justice topics and cultural *and* social emotional competencies—critical in today's diverse classrooms.

CENTRAL TEXTS
Rigorous, relevant texts are at the heart of *Perspectives*. Select from the anthology of short texts that meet the complexity demands of the Common Core and align to ABF anchor standards.

TASKS
Practice UBD by selecting performance tasks next. Write to the Source tasks (3-12) require students to use the central text as a source for argumentative, explanatory and narrative writing. Do Something tasks (K-12) build civic engagement and assess progress toward anti-bias goals.

STRATEGIES
Based on the EQ, the text, your selected performance tasks and your students' needs, select instructional strategies from each phase of the learning plan. Learning plan phases align to the reading, writing, speaking and listening goals of the Common Core.

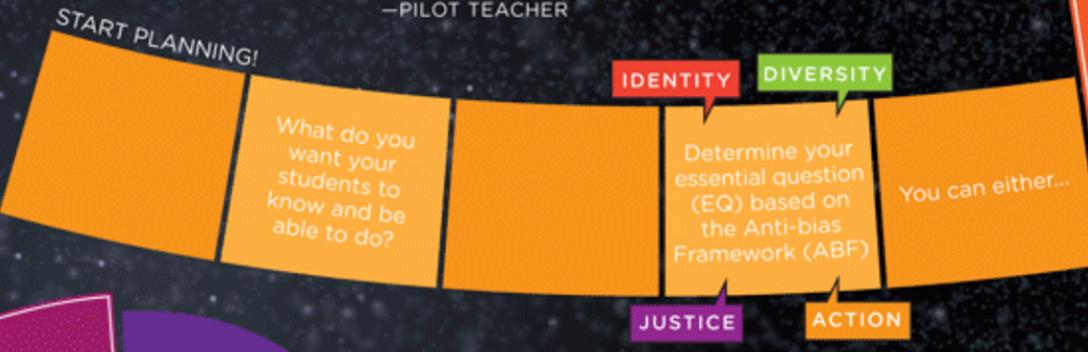
ESSENTIAL QUESTION + CENTRAL TEXT + TASKS + STRATEGIES = LEARNING PLAN

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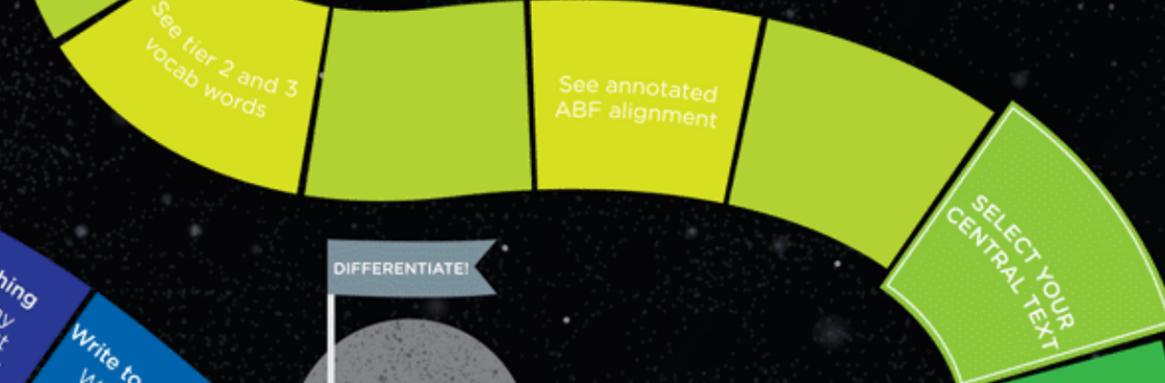
- Literature
- Informational
- Multimedia
- Visual

"The essential questions help keep my planning purposeful."
—PILOT TEACHER

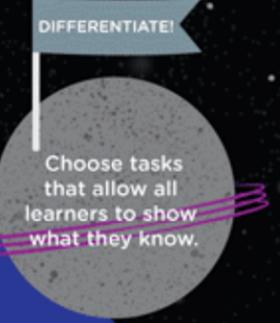


So...how will YOU use Perspectives?
perspectives.tolerance.org

"This is going to make my teaching more engaging and beneficial to my students."
—PILOT TEACHER



"I really like the diversity of the texts, including visual and multimedia."
—PILOT TEACHER



"The tasks and strategies are very creative and well-explained. It's so easy and time-friendly to plug them into the learning plan."
—PILOT TEACHER

Toolkit
See what a Perspectives learning plan looks like at three different grade levels.
VISIT » tolerance.org/3-2-1-launch

