

# HOW TO GUIDE



## Using resources (Don't appropriate!)

Some of the stories you will encounter on our website are only meant to be told at certain times of the year, and under specific circumstances. Where relevant, we have noted this, however, further research is always encouraged prior to directing your students to any of the resources we list, and prior to using them yourself!

It is NEVER okay to sing, dance, chant, or recreate any of the ceremonies being told in stories or displayed in video material. This is blatant appropriation and is never acceptable.

## Should you contact elders in your area?

It is NEVER okay to reach out to an elder asking for them to read a story to your class, or asking them for their knowledges, without compensation. For some tips on addressing elders and elder protocol, you can refer to the following link that provides a great overview into some things to think about prior to contacting an elder:

<https://www.ictinc.ca/blog/first-nation-elder-protocol>

## Feeling uncomfortable? (hint: it's normal!)

Conditions of coloniality apolitically frame how education is enacted, as well as the assumed normalization of power structures that exist in our societies (Reyes, 2019). The beneficiaries of coloniality (most often Eurocentric and privileged backgrounds) tend to act in a defensive, aggressive and avoidant manner when we begin to question these conditions (Reyes, 2019). We recognize that this can be difficult and make you feel uncomfortable, but we encourage you to encounter this feeling head on. It's totally normal and often times necessary, it means you're growing as an educator!

# Definitions

Note: These definitions are not exhaustive. You should conduct your own research, these resources are meant to act as a starting point if you are overwhelmed or don't know where to start!

## Settler Colonialism

Settler colonialism is a system of oppression that began during colonization of lands around the world, which continues to suppress and erase Indigenous peoples from their land, and ways of knowing and living. There are several definitions of settler colonialism, and we encourage you to learn more by conducting your own research. Unsure where to start? Here are a few resources we recommend:

<https://www.learningforjustice.org/magazine/what-is-settlercolonialism>

<https://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/display/document/obo-9780190221911/obo-9780190221911-0029.xml>

## Reconciliation

Reconciliation is an important process of decoloniation. Learn more about exactly what it entails here:

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/reconciliation-doesn-t-exist-yet-say-indigenous-leaders-1.4963594>

### **Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 calls to action:**

[https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/british-columbians-our-governments/indigenous-people/aboriginal-peoples-documents/calls\\_to\\_action\\_english2.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/british-columbians-our-governments/indigenous-people/aboriginal-peoples-documents/calls_to_action_english2.pdf)

## Culturally Responsive Teaching

Culturally responsive (or culturally relevant) teaching is a term coined by Gloria Ladson-Billings. The CRT framework is one that is integrated into many classrooms, but specifically pertains to classrooms in Ontario. You may have also heard of culturally responsive and relevant pedagogies (CRRP). If your school board does not currently integrate these frameworks into your lesson planning, we recommend checking them out in our resource list!

# Additional Resources

## Anti-Colonial Pedagogies

Weaving ways - Integrating Indigenous perspectives into your classroom

<https://empoweringthespirit.ca/classroom-supports/>

First Nations, Metis and Inuit Education Association of Ontario

<https://fnmieao.com/public-resources/elementaryresources/>

Chanda Prescod-Weinstein's Reading list for Decolonizing Science

<https://medium.com/@chanda/decolonising-science-reading-list-339fb773d51f>

## Resource Library & Guide

National Centre for Collaboration in Indigenous Education's Resource Library

<https://www.nccie.ca/resource-library/>

FNMIEAO's Guide - Things to consider before engaging with Indigenous Knowledge

[https://fnmieao.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/ik\\_guidelines.pdf](https://fnmieao.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/ik_guidelines.pdf)

## Inclusive Education

Culturally relevant pedagogies (**Book**) by Gloria Ladson Billings.

<https://www.amazon.ca/Culturally-Relevant-Pedagogy-Different-Question/dp/0807765910>

Department of Education (California) - Culturally relevant pedagogy

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ee/culturalrelevantpedagogy.asp#:~:text=Culturally,%20Relevant%20Pedagogy%20is%20a,perspectives%20that%20challenge%20social%20inequalities.>

Ontario Guide to equity and inclusion in the classroom

<https://www.dcp.edu.gov.on.ca/en/program-planning/considerations-for-program-planning/human-rights-equity-and-inclusive-education>