

How to Conduct an Effective Curriculum Audit

5 Simple Steps Toward More Inclusive Classrooms

1

Assemble Your Team.

Bring together a group of people (three at the very least, but a larger group is better) who have diverse roles (teachers, parents, administrators, etc.) and identities (age, gender, race, etc.) to evaluate the curriculum together.

Educate each team member carefully on the purpose of the audit and answer any questions they have before you get started.



2

Focus Your Analysis.

Limit the attention of this audit to the units, grades, materials, or lessons you've chosen to address, rather than trying to audit enormous sets of curricula. Be sure you're looking at resources that are used in the classroom on a regular basis, not materials specific to diversity.

Agree upon specific guidelines for your audit, determining exactly which measures you'll use to evaluate, rate, and score the curriculum. Create and share scorecards, if needed.



3

Conduct Your Audit.

Make sure your team knows exactly what they're looking for, and then, as you read through the curriculum, keep everyone focused on your audit's goals.

Record everyone's feedback about various aspects of cultural responsiveness and inclusivity as they're reflected in the materials.

Use your agreed-upon guidelines to evaluate and rate the curriculum. Ensure that all feedback is collected and heard.



4

Score Your Audit.

Add up your scores to achieve final ratings for each of the crucial categories you've prioritized, such as representation. Most curricula rate well in some areas and poorly in others, so be sure to track and address these discrepancies.

Clarify any scoring issues, answer any questions, and then create a detailed, comprehensive overview of the results.



5

Take Action.

Conduct and record in-depth discussions with your team about the results. What did you learn? Which revelations and discoveries surprised you and why? Which outcomes appear to be the most important or valuable and why?

What else do you need to know, analyze, ask, or consider before your team feels that you've assembled an accurate audit of the curriculum? What are your next steps, and what are each educator's action items?



Based in part on information provided by The Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity and the Transformation of Schools.