

Teaching about Gender Diversity

Teacher-Tested Lesson Plans for K–12 Classrooms



Subjects

Gender, Equity, Diversity
Professional Practice
Gender
Education

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Teaching about Gender Diversity is an edited collection of teacher-tested interdisciplinary lesson plans that provides K–12 teachers with the tools to implement gender-inclusive practices into their curriculum and talk to their students about gender and sex. Divided into three sections dedicated to the elementary, middle, and secondary grade levels, this practical resource provides lessons for a variety of subject areas, including English language arts, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics), and health and physical education. The lessons range from reading aloud early literacy picture books that use gender-neutral language and highlight the gendered experiences of characters to engaging mathematics in the study of targeting gender terminology, stereotypes, and the social construction of binary gender. Written by teachers for teachers, this engaging collection highlights teachers' specialized knowledge of pedagogical practices for the diverse contemporary classroom. More than 30 contributors from across North America provide their varied perspectives on the timely issue of teaching about gender in the classroom. *Teaching about Gender Diversity* is an ideal resource for students taking education courses on gender, sexuality, diversity and equity, curriculum design, and professional practice. **FEATURES**

- detailed lesson plans that include next steps and extension ideas
- practice-based, guided approach
- practical resource for pre-service and in-service teachers

Author Information

Susan W. Woolley

Susan W. Woolley is Associate Professor of Educational Studies and Director of the LGBTQ Studies Program at Colgate University, New York. Susan's interdisciplinary research and teaching contribute to the fields of anthropology of education, language and literacy studies, gender and sexuality studies, and LGBT and queer studies.

Lee Airton

Lee Airton is Assistant Professor of Gender and Sexuality Studies in Education at Queen's University, Ontario. Lee's teaching, research, and advocacy work focus on enabling individuals and institutions to welcome gender and sexual diversity. They founded the Q&A-based blog *They Is My Pronoun* and the No Big Deal Campaign.

Reviews

"The research is clear: transgender and gender nonconforming students face more hostile school climates than their LGBQ peers. *Teaching about Gender Diversity* is a valuable resource for any educator who wants to create a safer, more affirming learning environment for their students. We highly recommend these teacher-tested lesson plans for bringing gender-inclusive practices into ELA, STEM, health, and PE."

—Eliza Byard, Executive Director, GLSEN

"A highly interactive text that is adaptable for various grade levels, school climates, and levels of teacher readiness, *Teaching about Gender Diversity* is an invaluable resource for exploring and affirming gender-expansiveness alongside youth. All educators should invest in this book."

—Z Nicolazzo, Associate Professor, Trans* Studies in Education & Co-Chair, Transgender Studies Research Cluster, University of Arizona

"To educators who are committed to just, joyous, and safer schools—particularly for gender diverse communities—this the book you have been waiting for! *Teaching About Gender Diversity* is full of rich classroom activities for a wide range of learners, smart and intersectional analysis and reflection from educators, and additional crucial resources such as a glossary and further readings. Beyond simply advancing equity, Woolley and Airton's brilliantly and usefully curated collection provides fresh tools for educators to conceptualize, integrate, teach, and grow gender diversity to build the flourishing communities we need."

—Erica R. Meiners, Bernard J. Brommel Distinguished Research Professor, Northeastern Illinois University

"This very helpful guide provides a comprehensive, complex, and complicated analysis of gender diversities and helps educators at all levels to assess, educate, and stay current on gender inclusion. The lesson and assessment plans emphasize the best in educative approaches, pushing educators to respond to diversities in schools in thoughtful and critical ways, rethinking their lessons, their institutions' policies, and the necessity of situating gender within cultures, race, ethnicities, places, and practices."

—Cris Mayo, Professor, Department of Education, University of Vermont

"Woolley and Airton have curated a diverse collection of lessons and activities to address gender identity across North American curriculum at multiple grade levels and subject areas. The book offers a rich multiplicity of theoretical traditions and approaches to teaching and learning with gender identities, while also recognizing that ... lived experiences of gender identities are context-based, fluid, and often changing. This is a standout resource that will be of great value to practising educators, teacher candidates, and teacher educators."

—Lisa W. Loutzenheiser, Associate Professor, Department of Curriculum and Pedagogy, Centre for the Study of Teacher Education, & Associate, Institute of Gender, Race, Sexuality and Social Justice, University of British Columbia

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