

Reflect on your own experiences with children, families, and colleagues. If you are an supervisor, administrator, or adult educator, how might you use these questions and activities to help other adults reflect on their experiences?

Know Yourself

Supporting cultural diversity in a way that promotes equity is an honorable goal. But the work can feel daunting as well.

Describe what you find challenging or daunting.

Describe what you find exciting.

Try This

Which of these voices in the chart below best represents your own thoughts?

Fill in the blank spaces at the bottom with your own thoughts.

Look at all these cultures in my program!	What can I possibly do with all these cultures in my program!
I'm excited about the diversity in my group.	I am overwhelmed by the diversity in my group.
I'm likely to stereotype if I don't know how each family wants their cultural and linguistic heritage passed on to their	I really try to be color-blind and accept all the children as they are.

children.	
It will be so fun to learn all their languages.	How will I ever learn enough words in all these languages?
I want the children and families to know that I respect their cultural background.	I'm nervous that I'll discover and expose some bias I still have about different cultural groups.
I wonder how having cultural celebrations really supports equity.	I wonder how many cultural celebrations we can have.
I want to get volunteers to help the children regularly hear and speak in their language.	I want to get volunteers to help translate for the children.
I'm glad I've taken classes on diversity so I won't be resistant to including differences.	I've studied so much about diversity and there's still so much I need to learn.

Write any additional thoughts or feelings you have about dealing with diversity in ECE settings. Choose one to start a conversation with workmates or other colleagues.