# VIRTUAL kit: BUILDING ANTI-BIAS ENVIRONMENTS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

**Kit QT**

In today’s world, providers work with a wide range of children and adults, many of whom have varying socioeconomic, racial, and cultural backgrounds. An anti-bias classroom moves beyond simply organizing “multicultural” activities once a week to truly embracing a perspective that integrates into everything involved in working with young children and their families.

Creating an anti-bias space allows providers to have a safe, supportive learning community for every child, helping them to construct their own identity and attitudes as they grow and develop. The National Association for the Education of Young Children have identified four core goals of an anti-bias education (Derman-Sparks & Edwards, 2019):

1. Identity: supporting children to feel strong and proud of who they are without needing to feel superior to anyone else.
2. Diversity: guiding thought and encouraging children to have words for how people are the same and how they are different.
3. Justice: building children’s innate, developing capacities for empathy and fairness, building a sense of safety and equality.
4. Activism: giving children tools for learning how to be bold and stand up to hurtful and unfair biased behavior.

**SHOW ME NOW – I NEED IT TOMORROW**

[Understanding Anti-Bias Education: Bringing the Four Core Goals to Every Facet of Your Curriculum](https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/yc/nov2019/understanding-anti-bias) (Article)

[Framework for Anti-Bias Teaching](https://www.naeyc.org/sites/default/files/wysiwyg/user-65/Screen%20Shot%202016-11-17%20at%2012.30.01%20PM.png) (Image)

[Five Teaching Strategies to Create an Anti-Bias Classroom](https://lesley.edu/article/teaching-young-children-to-understand-and-accept-differences) (Article)

[What is an Anti-Bias Curriculum in Early Childhood Settings?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M2RmeiJVC_w) (YouTube Video)

[Guide for Selecting Anti-Bias Children’s Books](https://www.teachingforchange.org/selecting-anti-bias-books) (Article/Checklist)

**WHAT DOES THIS LOOK LIKE IN PRACTICE? (I HAVE A LITTLE MORE TIME TO READ ABOUT THIS)**

[Anti-Bias Education for Young Children and Ourselves](https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/books/anti-bias-education) (Book)

[Leading Anti-Bias Early Childhood Programs: A Guide for Change](https://www.google.com/books/edition/Leading_Anti_Bias_Early_Childhood_Progra/k-fDBQAAQBAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=leading+anti-bias+early+childhood+programs&printsec=frontcover) (Book)

[Having Conversations About Race, Bias, and Equity](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a2YwtlrlKR8) (Webinar)

[Teaching for Change: Building Social Justice Starting in the Classroom](https://www.teachingforchange.org/) (Website)

**WHAT DOES THE ECRC HAVE ON THIS TOPIC**

Derman-Sparks, L. & Edwards, J. O. (2010). Anti-bias education for young children and ourselves. Washington, D.C.: National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Frances, K. (1996). Diversity in the classroom: New approaches to the education of young children. Teachers College Press.

Thomson, B. (1993). Words can hurt you: Beginning a program of anti-bias education. Menlo Park, CA: Addison-Wesley

**HOW CAN I FIND TRAINING/TRAINING MATERIALS ON THIS TOPIC?**

* **[KCCTO](https://kccto.org/) Courses**
  + Exploring Social and Emotional Development
  + Respectful Teaching: A Responsive Approach to Infant and Toddler Learners
* [**KCCTO-KITS ITSN**](http://kskits.org/) **Community Based Training**
  + Understanding Social Emotional Development
  + Building Skills in Two Languages
* Visit these links for collaborative training calendars:
  + [KCCTO](https://kccto.org/) Training Calendar
  + [KITS](http://kskits.org/) Training Calendar

To inquire about a specific class, visit the [KCCTO](https://kccto.org/) website.

**IF YOU THOUGHT THIS WAS HELPFUL YOU MIGHT ALSO LIKE:**

Virtual Kit: Developmentally Appropriate Practice

Virtual Kit: Building Resiliency in Children and Families

Technical Assistance Packet: Develomentally Appropriate Practice

**WHAT IF I STILL NEED HELP?**

You may request technical assistance from the KCCTO-KITS Infant Toddler Network Specialists visit the [KCCTO](https://kccto.org/) website and check their current contact information.

**EVALUATION**

Please take a minute to complete a brief survey Virtual Kit page to let us know what you think about this virtual kit, and what other topics you would like to see addressed in the future.

**REFERENCES**

Bentley, D. (n.d.). [Teaching young children to understand and accept differences](https://lesley.edu/article/teaching-young-children-to-understand-and-accept-differences).

Derman-Sparks, L. (2016). [Guide for selecting anti-bias children’s books](https://www.teachingforchange.org/selecting-anti-bias-books).

Derman-Sparks, L. & Edwards, J. O. (2019). [Understanding Anti-Bias Education](https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/yc/nov2019/understanding-anti-bias): Bringing the Four Core Goals to Every Facet of Your Curriculum. *Young Children, 74*(5).

Derman-Sparks, L., Edwards, J. O., & Goins, C.M. (2020). Anti-bias education for young children and ourselves, 2nd ed.. Washington, D.C.: National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Derman-Sparks, L., LeeKeenan, D. & Nimmo, J. (2015). Leading anti-bias early childhood programs: A guide for change. New York, NY: Teachers College Press.

Early Childhood Management Services. (2018). [What is an anti-bias curriculum in early childhood settings](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M2RmeiJVC_w)?

Pyramid Model. (2019). Having conversations about race, bias, and equity. [Video]. YouTube.

[[Screenshot of Framework for Anti-Bias Teaching](https://www.naeyc.org/sites/default/files/wysiwyg/user-65/Screen%20Shot%202016-11-17%20at%2012.30.01%20PM.png)] (n.d.)

[Teaching for Change](https://www.teachingforchange.org/). (2020).