

Strength  
Teaching  
**Equity**  
Diversity



## 9 Tips for Promoting Equity in the Classroom

Fair  
**Education**  
Learning  
Opportunity  
Attention  
**Students**  
Conscious  
**Equality**  
Strategies

- 1) **Decorate with purpose** - Your posters, books, and reference materials should offer diverse characters and viewpoints that allow each student to feel a sense of belonging.
- 2) **Make eye contact** - Try to consciously spend time looking at and encouraging students, especially those who appear less confident or are hesitant to engage.
- 3) **Call on everyone** - You might not realize that some students get called on significantly less than others, but they notice! Try using a randomizer to help with student selection. There are digital tools online, or you can rely on the tried and true method of drawing popsicle sticks with student names on them.
- 4) **Take your time** - Students who are less comfortable in the classroom generally take more time to respond to questions. Try counting to four or five before calling on students for answers.
- 5) **Cut back on homework** - Keep in mind that instead of closing the achievement gap in your classroom, homework tends to separate students further.
- 6) **Show, don't just tell** - When you invite guest speakers into the classroom, make sure that women and members of underrepresented groups are prominently featured.
- 7) **Access is key** - Inventory your classroom and computer lab to make sure that assistive technology exists for students with disabilities and learning disorders.
- 8) **Provide a comment box** - Have an anonymous comment box so that students who come to class with a different background can ask questions about things other students seem to already know without fear of embarrassment.
- 9) **Be available** - Remember that not every student has a support system at home. Create "office hours" or give students the power to "make appointments" with you so that they have the opportunity to catch up when they feel like they have fallen behind.

Compiled by Code.org from resources offered by organizations including: UNICEF, Google, NCWIT, Rice University, EDEquity Inc., Edutopia, csteachingtips, SAFE@SCHOOL, The Center for Teaching Excellence, The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

## **Additional Online Resources:**

### **Tips for Reducing Bias (csteachingtips)**

[http://csteachingtips.org/images/BestOf/CSTT\\_ReducingBias.pdf](http://csteachingtips.org/images/BestOf/CSTT_ReducingBias.pdf)

### **Fostering Equity (Safe@School)**

<http://www.safeatschool.ca/plm/equity-and-inclusion/strategies-for-positive-action/fostering-equity>

### **Equity in the Classroom Through Culturally Conscious Instruction (ASCD)**

<http://annualconference.ascd.org/attendee/conference-daily/2015/classroom-equity.aspx>

### **Equity Resources (Rice Precollege Science Education)**

[http://www.bioc.rice.edu/precollege/ei/best\\_practices.html#classroom](http://www.bioc.rice.edu/precollege/ei/best_practices.html#classroom)

### **3 Practices to Promote Equity in the Classroom (Edutopia)**

<http://www.edutopia.org/blog/practices-promote-equity-in-classroom-shane-safir>

### **Framing a Supportive Classroom Climate (NCWIT)**

<https://www.ncwit.org/resources/how-do-you-recruit-or-retain-women-through-inclusive-pedagogy/framing-supportive-classroom>

### **Equal Access: Inclusive Strategies for Teaching Students with Disabilities (NCWIT)**

<https://www.ncwit.org/resources/how-do-you-recruit-or-retain-women-through-inclusive-pedagogy/equal-access-inclusive>

### **Toolkit for Assessing and Promoting Equity in the Classroom (UNICEF)**

[http://www.unicef.org/lifeskills/files/AssessingEquity-EIC\\_Toolkit.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/lifeskills/files/AssessingEquity-EIC_Toolkit.pdf)

### **Ten Steps to Equity in Education (The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development)**

<http://www.oecd.org/education/school/39989494.pdf>

### **Images of Computer Science: Perceptions Among Students, Parents and Educators in the U.S. (Google)**

<https://services.google.com/fh/files/misc/images-of-computer-science-report.pdf>

### **EDEquity Resources (EDEquity)**

<http://www.edequity.com/edequity-resources.php>

### **Teaching To Promote Gender Equality (The Center for Teaching Excellence)**

<http://cte.virginia.edu/resources/teaching-a-diverse-student-body-practical-strategies-for-enhancing-our-students-learning/gender-dynamics-in-the-classroom/teaching-to-promote-gender-equality/>