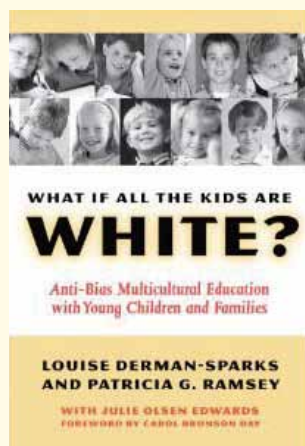


Resource reviews

by Julie Peters

What if all the kids are white?



In their book *What if all the kids are white?*, Louise Derman-Sparks and Patricia G. Ramsey examine the importance of teaching an anti-biased multicultural curriculum, especially if children are not in a culturally diverse environment. It is aimed at educators and family members who work with or raise

white children.

The book is broken into two parts, each made up of several chapters. Part one focuses on the construction of 'whiteness' and white identity, while the second part focuses on deepening the sense of connection with family and community. Throughout the book there are seven themes, each with strategies on how to apply anti-biased/multicultural concepts to the classroom. The strategies are well written, easy to follow and easily transferable.

Reflective questions are posed at the end of each chapter to encourage the reader to think about how the information is pertinent to their own life and work. Throughout the book, Derman-Sparks and Ramsey apply two case studies of services from different socio-economic areas to exemplify how the strategies covered translate into real life situations.

What if all the kids are white? is an excellent resource for educators planning an anti-biased, multicultural curriculum for children in child care ■

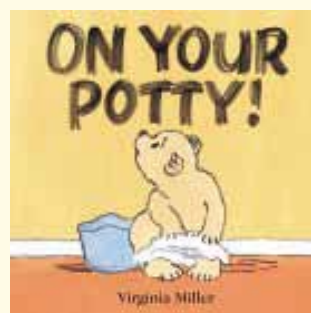
On your potty!

On Your Potty! by Virginia Miller is a delightful children's book that will be loved by both children and adults. As the title suggests, the book deals with one of the important stages in a toddler's development: toilet training. Virginia Miller has chosen simple, child-friendly text to accompany her illustrations.

On Your Potty! deals with the child/carer relationship with humour and tenderness. Miller exemplifies the importance of a loving, warm and rewarding environment during the toilet training period through the relationship of Bartholomew, a loveable bear, and his carer, George. Educators will be able to use the book to help children identify with typical 'learning to use the toilet' experiences, such as the experience of trying to go to the toilet and nothing happening or having to rush to the toilet when they realise they need to go when they are playing.

Miller uses Bartholomew to depict typical toddler behaviour. Many children will easily relate to the cheeky, cuddly Bartholomew, especially his determination to not do what is asked of him. Replying "Nah!" to almost all requests, Bartholomew is a character that rings true with most children at some stage of their development.

Miller's choice of characters, illustrations and text makes this the perfect toilet training book for children, parents and educators alike. The



illustrations have such a visual appeal that children will want to read the book again and again ■

Derman-Sparks, L., & Ramsey, P.G. (2006). *What if all the kids are white?* New York: Teachers College Press.

Miller, V. (2008). *On your potty!* London: Walker Books.