

Integration of Indigenous Culture and Language

Definition

Incorporating Indigenous knowledge and culture into school can be described as ensuring that it is represented in student learning outcomes, instructional methods and resources, assessment, and as a part of the curriculum (Kanu, 2007). Lack of Indigenous cultural knowledge in the school curriculum and among teachers has been identified as a crucial factor in school failure among Indigenous learners (Battiste, 2000; Friesen & Friesen, 2002). When school curricula and teaching are compatible with students' cultures, chances of academic success increase (Lipka, 2002; Vogt, Jordan & Tharp, 1987; Zurawasky, 2005) and school retention of Indigenous students improve (Coladarci, 1983; Silver, Mallet, Greene, & Simard, 2002). In addition, the integration of Indigenous cultural knowledge and perspectives result in positive outcomes including higher test scores, better conceptual understanding, higher level thinking, and improved self-confidence (Kanu, 2007).

Special Note

This scale was created by authors of his handbook.

Related Indicators

- Indigenous Identity
- Cultural Connectedness
- Cultural and Linguistic Competency

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Please read each statement carefully, and circle your answer based on how much you agree or disagree by using the following scale from:

1 = Strongly Disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 = Agree; 4 = Strongly Agree

1.	Indigenous art is displayed at my school.	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Agree 3	Strongly Agree 4
2.	My school offers land-based education opportunities (e.g., learn about drying hides, fishing, medicine teachings).	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Agree 3	Strongly Agree 4
3.	I have opportunities at my school to learn an Indigenous language.	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Agree 3	Strongly Agree 4
4.	I learn about the history of colonization.	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Agree 3	Strongly Agree 4
5.	I learn about the history of residential schools.	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Agree 3	Strongly Agree 4
6.	Elders visit my school.	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Agree 3	Strongly Agree 4
7.	My school offers opportunities to learn traditional activities (e.g., drumming, beading, dancing).	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Agree 3	Strongly Agree 4
8.	My school recognizes and celebrates National Indigenous Peoples Day.	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Agree 3	Strongly Agree 4
9.	My school recognizes traditional ways of learning (e.g., storytelling).	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Agree 3	Strongly Agree 4
10.	My school hosts traditional feasts and/or powwows.	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Agree 3	Strongly Agree 4
11.	My school has books by Indigenous authors.	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Agree 3	Strongly Agree 4
12.	My school has books on Indigenous stories and folktales.	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Agree 3	Strongly Agree 4