

# Culturally Responsive Classrooms

“Let’s get comfortable talking about the uncomfortable”

-Gabriella Prezi



[Culturally Diverse Classroom](#)

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This podcast was provided by Gabriella Prezi, an Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist Assistant, and Teacher in Higher Education. She has a passion for diverse classrooms and being able to connect to her students and how to deliver academic content to her diverse students. Gabriella described what culturally responsive teaching looks like, as well as strategies and tools to facilitate and enhance student learning and acceptance.

I think that this podcast is relevant because as educators, we should want to expose our students to as many different perspectives, cultures, and other beliefs as we can. By creating a safe place where students can not only discuss, but share their cultural beliefs,

we can promote equity and inclusiveness in our classrooms. Students, in turn, will feel comfortable enough to want to contribute to conversations and activities.

This podcast helped remind me that it is OK to ask questions about different cultures and also share about myself as well. Doing so helps to develop a connection to my students.

Gabriella shared that some cultures even put shoes on in different ways. This question could be posed to the entire class to answer and then respectfully ask questions. We will never learn about the different backgrounds, cultures, and traditions of others if we do not ask. Another strategy I can incorporate is to pose something as a question and then as a class, ask them to solve it. In my classroom, I enjoy reading books about different cultures and then comparing/contrasting those to our own cultures/beliefs. This teaches students even though we may believe differently, do things differently, or see things differently, doesn't mean it's wrong. We should celebrate diversity.

