

# CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER ANTI-BIAS EDUCATION



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Burbank Community YMCA

332 E San Jose Ave, Burbank, CA

December, 2020

## CELEBRATIONS FOR ALL!

Here at the Burbank Community YMCA Child Development Center, we acknowledge that holidays and birthdays are a special time for families and children. Our celebration guidelines reflects the needs, beliefs and values of the children and families we serve, and aligns with traditional anti-bias early educational theories that support birthdays and holiday celebrations as unique times to honor family traditions, different cultures and beliefs. Additionally, we strive to promote celebratory learning that fosters awareness and appreciation for social justice, diversity and individual identities.

### What is Anti-Bias Education?

An approach to education that increases a child's understanding of differences. Creates a community that supports all human differences, including culture, religion, race, language, ability, family structure, gender, age and socio economic status.

## EQUITY AND RESPECT FOR TRADITIONS – A REFLECTIVE STORY

*The preschoolers have spent the past few days learning about Passover. During a discussion of the Seder ceremony, the teacher explains the meaning and tradition behind matzo. Esther, one of the Jewish children, states that she cannot eat leavened bread during the whole week of Passover. The next day a birthday celebration for another child includes cake. As the teacher is enjoying a slice, another teacher gives Esther a piece, because he feels sorry about "depriving" Esther and worries she may feel left out.*

*The other teacher notices the conflicted expression on Esther's face and intervenes: "Esther, do you know that cake is made of leavened flour and that you can't eat it during Passover?" Esther nods her head. "Let's freeze your piece and you can take it home and eat it when after the holiday." Esther relaxes, gives her cake to the teacher, and goes off to play.*

### Bev Boss "Rainbow Round Me"



The world outside my window is a world of color I see.  
Fiddle-dee-dee outside my window is a world of color I see.  
Rainbow, rainbow, round me.  
The sky outside my window is as blue as blue can be.  
The sun outside my window its as yellow as yellow can be.  
The flowers outside my window they're as purple as purple can be.  
The mud outside my window is a gooey as gooey can be.  
The mountain outside my window is as big as big can be.  
The kids outside my window they're as happy as happy can be.  
Rainbow, rainbow. Rainbow round me.

## NAEYC PRINCIPLES OF ANTI-BIAS EDUCATION

- There is a difference between learning about and celebrating holidays.
- Holidays are not universal.
- Every holiday tradition deserves respect.
- Holidays have deep emotional meaning for the people that celebrate them.
- Each family has its own version of holiday traditions, including not celebrating.
- Secular or commercialized versions of holidays are not neutral.
- Program holiday activities require thoughtfulness, sensitivity, and patience.

## THE FOUR CORE GOALS OF ANTI-BIAS EDUCATION

### ABE Goal 1

Each child will demonstrate self-awareness, confidence, family pride, and positive social identities.

### ABE Goal 2

Each child will express comfort and joy with human diversity; accurate language for human differences; and deep, caring human connections.

### ABE Goal 3

Each child will increasingly recognize unfairness, have language to describe unfairness, and understand that unfairness hurts.

### ABE Goal 4

Each child will demonstrate empowerment and skills to act, with others or alone, against prejudice and/or discriminatory actions.

*Luise Derman-Sparks, NAEYC 2010*