Social Justice Begins With Me is an ETFO anti-bias literature-based curriculum resource kit for the Early Years to Grade 8. This year-round resource builds on the concepts originally introduced in We’re Erasing Prejudice for Good and is organized using 10 monthly themes: Self-Esteem, Sharing Our Lives, Peace, Building Supportive Communities, Rights of the Child, Caring Hands, Untie the Knots of Prejudice, Local and Global Citizenship, True Worth and Beauty, and Circles and Cycles.

Social Justice Begins With Me promotes:


This Kit addresses “isms” such as:

- Anti-Semitism, Ageism, Heternormality, Sexism, Racism, Classism, Ableism, Prejudice and Faith.

The Primary/Junior/Intermediate lessons:

- Were written by ETFO members who incorporated their daily equity work into the lessons and activities.
- Assist the individual in examining their own personal biases and prejudices.
- Implement the Ministry of Educations’ Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy.
- Will assist teachers to address issues of equity and social justice in their classroom as well as assist their students in developing awareness, vocabulary and understanding of these issues.
- Focus on literacy and the use of the read aloud strategy.
- Include cross curricular links, connections to character education, links to safe schools and anti-bullying initiatives.
- Help educators teach critical thinking and literacy skills.
Foster pride in identity and self-esteem, and builds respect for one another and our world’s resources.

Have hyperlinked websites on the CD version.

**The Resource Guide:**

- Encourages reflection on ones’ teaching strategies and thinking about equity and social justice matters.
- Provides assessment strategies and tools that allow teachers to assess student learning.
- Acknowledges that inequity exists and develops an appreciation of differences in others.
- Demonstrates ways to communicate and make links with community groups.
- Provides examples of how to foster, engage and develop positive relationships with all communities and families.
- Helps to develop a larger knowledge base constructed from many different perspectives.
- Shows how students can take a social justice action approach to make changes in their school, community and the world.
- Models and uses inclusive language.
- Contains useful information regarding Aboriginal contacts, Ontario Aboriginal Historical sites, friendship centers and websites.
- Supports educators in addressing homophobia by using the ETFO Positive Space/Positive Places brochure.

**More Than A Play:**

ETFO commissioned eight Canadian playwrights to write nine plays for students in grades 4 to 8. Each play is based on the principles of “inclusive education” - the acceptance and inclusion of all students in which diversity is honoured and all individuals are respected. Each play focuses on developing critical thinking skills and inclusive vocabulary. *More Than A Play* allows students to see themselves reflected in the curriculum, their physical surroundings and the broader environment.

Please note that the picture books and novels that go with the list have to be purchased separately.

AP:SC
September 2014