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# The Multicultural Classroom

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# ***The Multicultural Classroom***



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*Based on research by Karen Balster*

# *A Multicultural Classroom* **is...**

one in which both the students and the teacher are accepting of all races, cultures, and religions. This acceptance is evidenced by the books that are read, the activities that are completed, and the lessons that are taught.



Source: <http://www.pre-kpages.com/multicultural.html>

# Did you know *that...*

of the 41% of teachers nationwide with ELLs in their classrooms, only 12.5% participated in 8 or more hours of professional development related to ELLs in in the past 3 years.

Source: [www.ncele.gwu.edu](http://www.ncele.gwu.edu)

- What are the characteristics of the bilingual education and ESL teacher shortage?
- Brown & Menken, August 2002

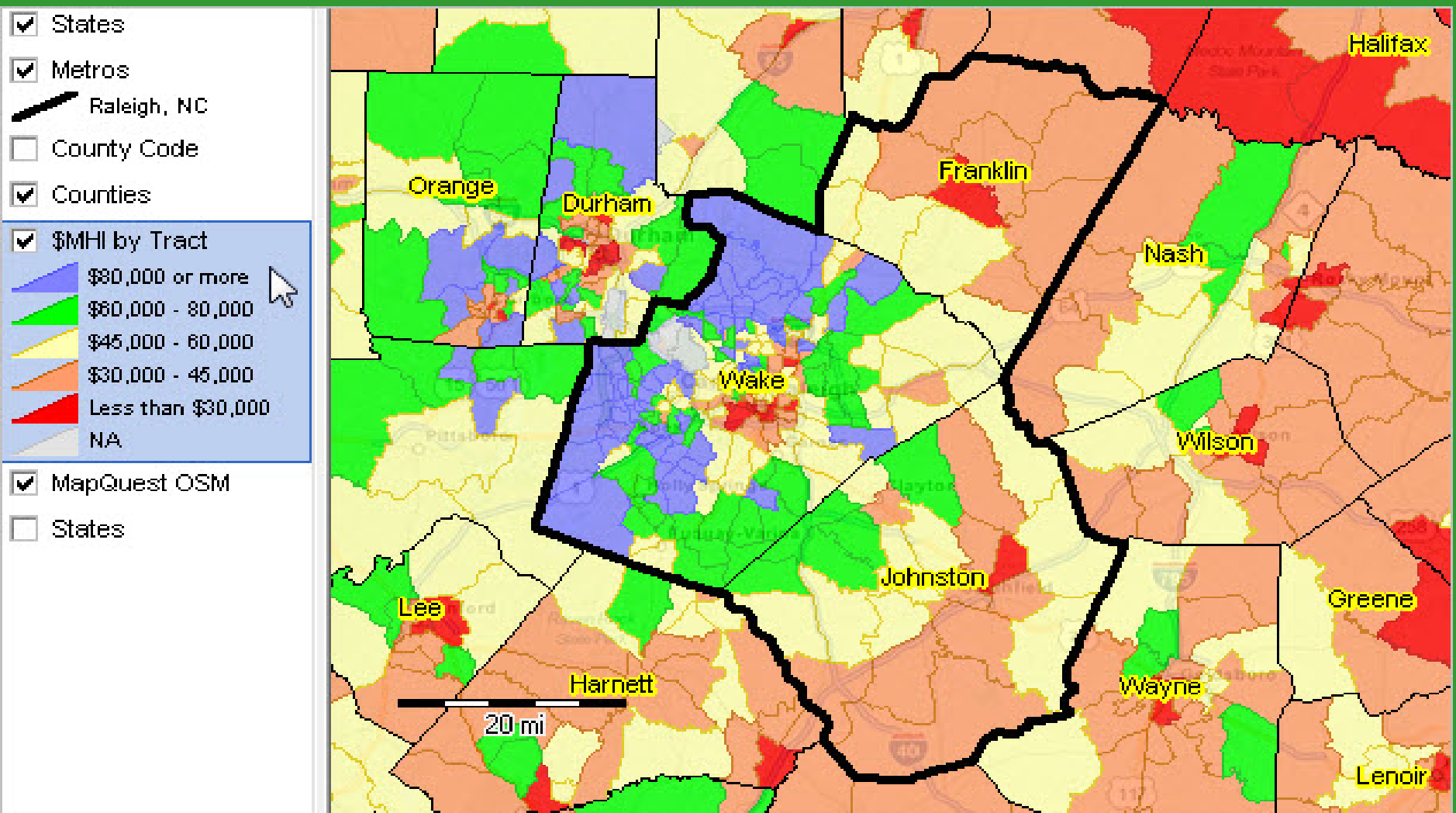


# Also...

- The majority of white primary and secondary school students have no significant contact with Black, Hispanic, peoples of other religions and customs from around the world and most of all nor American Indian students in the classroom.



# Demographic Data of Diversity of Population in Raleigh area



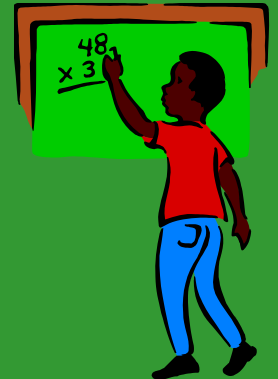
# General Strategies

- Recognize the demographics of your area and study the culture of that area.
- Recognize any biases or stereotypes you may have absorbed.
- Treat each student as an individual, and respect each student for who he or she is.



# More *strategies*...

- Rectify any language patterns or case examples that exclude or demean any groups.
- Do your best to be sensitive to terminology. Eubonics ( Black English), Language differences, custom differences.





# Language Differences

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pkzVOXKXfQk>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fhAiTuTI8Vs>
- <http://www.d.umn.edu/~hild0078/newwebonicsbook4web.pdf>

## *And finally...*

- Get a sense of how students feel about the cultural climate in your classroom.
- Introduce discussions of diversity at departments meetings.
- You as the Principal "Teacher" need to be a model to your staff.



# Multicultural “ideas”

- Each month or quarter, 'adopt' a country.
- Have a Show and Tell week focused on students' ancestry.
- Team-teach a unit with an ESL instructor at your school.
- When studying health and nutrition, study diets of different cultures.



# Other Resources

➤ Teachers First

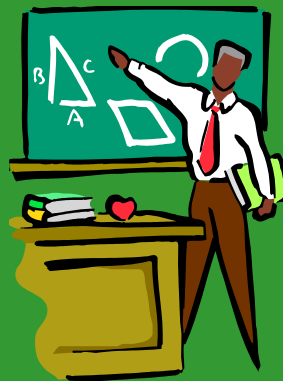
<http://www.teachersfirst.com/multicult.htm>

➤ Teacher's Corner

<http://www.edchange.org/multicultural/teachers.html>

➤ New Horizons for Learning

[http://www.newhorizons.org/strategies/multicultural/front\\_multicultural.htm](http://www.newhorizons.org/strategies/multicultural/front_multicultural.htm)



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- An Academic Overview of Desegregation

[www.kirwaninstitute.org/multimedia/presentations/4-7%20CLE%20Final.ppt](http://www.kirwaninstitute.org/multimedia/presentations/4-7%20CLE%20Final.ppt)

- PBS TeacherSource

<http://www.pbs.org/teachersource/>

- National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition and Language Instruction Education Program

[www.ncela.gwu.edu](http://www.ncela.gwu.edu)

- Tools for Teaching by Barbara Gross Davis, University of California, Berkeley

<http://teaching.berkeley.edu/bgd/diversity.html>