

Connect cultural heritage to learning

Some practical ideas to try in your classroom

- ✓ Invite students to bring an object or a photo from home that they can keep in the class, that best reflects their ethnic identity. This gives them physical space in the classroom for a connection from home.
- ✓ Encourage the students and their families to translate some positive learning phrases into Pacific languages, for class use. Provide opportunities for Pacific learners who speak Pacific languages to teach the class some basic vocabulary. Translate key words into students' home languages
- ✓ Establish classroom communication practices that include vocabulary from Pacific languages or Pacific cultural forms. For example, to gain attention use clapping sequences from Samoan culture (pati male po).
- ✓ Learn to pronounce your students' names correctly with their help. Model the correct pronunciation to the class. Encourage all students to use the correct pronunciation.
- ✓ Identify how you can specifically include a Pacific component into curriculum topics, such as including holidays and festivals that are important to your Pacific learners in learning activities.
- ✓ Engage with the Pacific school community and family to bring their knowledge and expertise into the school.

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