

Chalkboard features textbooks, resource guides, and curriculum materials of interest to educators at the elementary and secondary levels. Recent journal articles and issues that focus on multicultural topics are also highlighted, along with news items related to the development of multicultural curricula.

Please send any news items, curriculum materials, teacher's guides, or ideas to Lyn Miller-Lachmann, 194 Lenox Ave., Albany, NY 12208. If you would like the items returned, please include a stamped self-addressed envelope.

Bender, Deborah E.; Maier, Margaret; and Stern, Irwin. **Spanish for Dental Professionals: A Step by Step Handbook.** Albuquerque: Univ. of New Mexico Press [MSC11 6290, 1 University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001; (505) 277-2346; www.unmpress.com], 2005. 104 pp. Includes CD. ISBN 0-8263-3613-2, \$21.95 (pb).

Dental professionals who serve Spanish-speaking patients, in the United States and abroad, have a new resource to help bridge language and cultural gaps. Users of the handbook should be aware that the authors' method encourages group study and discussion—a worthwhile aim, but those using the resource on their own will be handicapped. Each chapter and its vocabulary centers on a theme—the Dental Health Fair, a first visit to the dentist (also addressing the concerns of adults seeing the dentist for the first time), taking X-rays, preventive home care, ending the appointment (including financial issues), and dental procedures. The authors describe the fictitious Hernández family—two parents and three children—as they make their way from a Dental Health Fair through a typical visit to the dentist. Assignments are designed to increase cultural as well as language competency; they run the gamut from memorizing vocabulary words to cooking typical Mexican dishes and attending a Latino festival in the community. A CD demonstrates proper pronunciation.

The handbook is designed to appeal to those just beginning their study of Spanish as well as those who studied Spanish in high school or college and just need a bit of review. Charts and flash cards with specialized dental vocabulary words alternate with essays in Spanish (with English translations) that describe aspects of Latin American and Latino culture. This variety of levels and the focus on group study make this an excellent choice for dental practices seeking to expand their patient base and improve their quality of care for the country's growing Latino population.

The Color of Friendship. Classroom Edition DVD. Elk Grove Village, Ill.: Disney Educational Productions [1200 Thorndale Ave., Elk Grove Village, IL 60007; www.edustation.com], 2005, 1996. DVD. 85 minutes. Color. Includes 9-page teacher's guide as a downloadable PDF file for Macintosh and Windows. \$49.00.

The award-winning 1996 film gets a nine-page downloadable

teacher's guide and an interactive glossary in this educational edition from Disney. Based on a true story, the film depicts 13-year-old Piper Dellums's growing friendship with the South African exchange student she'd convinced her family to host in order to connect with her African heritage. The student, Mahree Bok, turns out to be White. Piper is Black and the daughter of Representative Ronald V. Dellums, the leading critic in Congress of apartheid, but the two girls discover that what they have in common transcends race and politics. The events take place in 1977, in the shadow of the South African police's arrest and subsequent murder of Black human rights activist Stephen Biko. Though the characters are real, they are played by actors, and many scenes have been dramatized.

For students in grades six through twelve, many of them born after the end of apartheid, the film and supplementary materials introduce this system—and the country that brought it about—in a clear, understandable way. The package draws parallels between apartheid and slavery in the American South before the Civil War while addressing broader human rights issues that continue to have relevance today.

Deng, Frances and Khalil, Mohamed A. **Sudan's Civil War: The Peace Process Before and Since Machakos.** Pretoria: Africa Institute of South Africa; dist. in the U.S. by Michigan State Univ. Press [1405 S. Harrison Rd., Suite 25, East Lansing, MI 48823-5202; (517) 355-9543; www.msupress.msu.edu], 2005. 22 pp. Series: Peace and Governance Programme. ISBN 0-7983-0175-9, \$12.95 (pb).

This series pamphlet, first published in South Africa, serves as a useful background paper for educators, at the high school level and above, who are planning to teach about the conflict and resultant genocide in Sudan. A detailed map precedes the text on a facing page. Following an introduction, the pamphlet describes the history of the conflict and earlier efforts at mediation. The next section identifies the various factions and their areas of contention, including self-determination for ethnic groups, the separation of religion and state, and respect for human rights. The final section addresses the progress (or lack thereof) following the Machakos Protocols negotiated between the Sudanese government and the principal rebel group in 2002.

The authors of the report assess not only compliance with the Machakos Protocols but also weaknesses in the protocol that have impeded a peaceful solution to the conflict. For instance, while the protocol calls for the separation of religion and state in the non-Muslim south, its reaffirmation of *shari'ah* law in the north threatens the basic human rights of all Sudanese peoples.

The Ernest Green Story. Classroom Edition DVD. Elk Grove Village, Ill.: Disney Educational Productions [1200 Thorndale Ave., Elk Grove Village, IL 60007; www.edustation.com], 1996, 2005. DVD. 101 minutes. Color. Includes 9-page teacher's

guide as a downloadable PDF file for Macintosh and Windows. \$59.95.

A nine-page teacher's guide and interactive discussion questions (using scenes from the film to illustrate each of three questions) enhance this reenactment of the integration of Little Rock's Central High School in 1957. Although the *Brown* decision ordered schools around the country to be integrated, none in the South had done so until nine courageous teens volunteered to attend the all-white Central High. Ernest Green was the only senior among the volunteers and thus was the first African American to graduate from a previously segregated high school as a result of the *Brown* decision. The film depicts the obstacles Green and the other eight students faced—racist taunts, threats, physical violence, destruction of schoolwork, and prejudiced teachers that in Green's case almost prevented his graduation.

The teacher's guide provides a time line of civil rights-related events in the 1950s, as well as a discussion of Jim Crow and the *Brown* decision. Thought-provoking questions for discussion focus on the nature of courage, the role of nonviolence in bringing about social change, and the choices made by individual characters. The teacher's guide also includes extensive resource lists and web links for both educators and students. While the promotional materials state that this film is appropriate for grades five through twelve, the pacing and some of the language and situations make it a better choice for seventh grade and up.

Exploring Tamil. Fremont, Calif.: Baby Hindustani, Inc. [39120 Argonaut Way #394, Fremont, CA 94538; (415) 756-9909; www.babyhindustani.com], 2004. DVD and VHS. 30 minutes. Color. \$14.95 (DVD); \$9.95 (VHS).

Exploring Tamil is one of a series of audiovisual products designed to teach preschoolers the various languages of the Indian subcontinent. Others currently available present Hindi, Gujarati, and Telugu. Geared to Indian parents trying to maintain their heritage in the United States, Canada, and other countries around the world (no English or other language besides the target language is spoken on the video), the video teaches the words for everyday objects, colors, and numbers. A distinguishing feature is the background music—soothing works by Mozart designed to blend Eastern and Western cultures and take advantage of recent research showing the connection between classical music and learning.

This video is designed to appeal to young children. Indian toddlers, sometimes wearing traditional clothing and sometimes in jeans and high-top sneakers, demonstrate the vocabulary words. Toys popular with the younger set—puzzles, stuffed animals, toy cars—also appear throughout.

Peterson, Brian. ***The African American Student's Guide to Excellence in College.*** Philadelphia: Chance22 Publishing [P. O. Box 30717, Philadelphia, PA 19104; www.chance22.com], 2005. 224 pp. ISBN 0-9664587-2-9, \$14.00 (pb).

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania who is now a novelist and teacher, Peterson offers advice to fellow African

Americans starting their freshman year of college. Clear, entertaining writing is a hallmark of this book, which dispenses standard college survival advice (time management, study skills, tips for selecting courses, staying healthy) along with advice specific to African-American students. He addresses concerns many African Americans have that they do not “belong” in highly selective, predominantly white colleges (“If you're in the room, then you do belong”) and the tendency of some to settle for a B when they should strive for an A (describing how a friend aimed for a B but ended up with a C). He points out the collective strengths of African Americans and how they can contribute to the individual student's college success, discussing these under the topic of multiple intelligences and learning styles. More specific advice for the African-American student comes in the section on social life and extracurricular activities, with topics that include the temptation to overcommit to clubs, interracial friendships, sexual relationships, and the challenges facing student athletes.

Peterson's guide is geared to students attending racially diverse colleges and universities rather than historically black institutions. As his concluding chapters on life after college point out, a commitment to excellence in one's academic and personal life during these four years sets the tone for a lifetime of success.

Richardson, Robin, for Derbyshire Advisory and Inspection Service. ***Here, There, and Everywhere: Belonging, Identity and Equality in Schools.*** Stoke on Trent, U.K.: Trentham Books/Anthem Press; dist. in the U.S. by Stylus Publishing [22883 Quicksilver Dr., Sterling, VA 20166-2012; (703) 996-1039; www.styluspub.com], 2005. 100 pp. ISBN 1-85856-343-7, \$25.00 (pb).

The Derbyshire Education Department in England produced this curriculum guide for multicultural and antiracist education, and its distribution in the United States highlights the international dimensions of the problem the authors try to address. The book begins with a summary of a play that has been performed in Derbyshire; the play portrays the feelings of a multiracial girl who experiences bullying in her all-white school that is ignored by school officials. A discussion following the summary identifies the purpose of this guide as helping teachers and administrators to organize their schools in a more inclusive manner, to incorporate multicultural concepts across the curriculum, and to promote more positive interactions among students of different heritages.

To organize schools in a more humane, inclusive manner, the guide encourages the teaching of six concepts across the curriculum—shared humanity; difference and identity; local and global involvement; recognizing achievement everywhere; conflict, justice, and rights; and awareness of race and racism. After the cross-curricular concepts, the guide addresses ways of teaching multiculturally in specific disciplines, with a chart of evaluative rubrics for each discipline. The next section addresses methods of conflict resolution and encouraging positive behavior in students. The book concludes with references and lists of web sites and organizations, mostly in the U.K. 