Guideline 1: To help children have authentic learning experiences about people by studying what they do or how they feel

Authentic	experiences	Less	than	authentic	experience.

- interact and interrelate with persons of their own or another culture
- attend/participate in authentic celebrations and festivals
- listen to/watch persons from their own or another culture sing, play authentic instruments, dance, speak their languages, do craft or art work
- participate in a "situation play"
- wear traditional clothing from their own culture

- dance like "Indians," Watusi, Tahitians, etc.
- drum like Navajo, Bantus, Maoris, etc.
- sing like Menominee. Ashanti. Hmong, etc.
- speak like Hindus, Eskimos. Chinese, etc.
- "play Indian"'
- wear traditional clothing or (even worse!) imitations of traditional clothing of another culture
- portray persons from other cultures in plays, dramas, etc. unless no one from those cultures are available and then only with authentic costumes and make-up

Guideline 2: To help children have authentic learning experiences about people by studying what they make or produce

Authentic experiences

Less than authentic experiences

- read (or have read to them) authentic stories or literature
- see, appreciate authentic art forms
- copy authentic art forms or designs on paper
- make models of authentic arts forms using the same or similar materials
- listen to authentic music
- cook and/or eat authentic foods and beverages
- make and/or wear authentic jewelry
- play authentic games

- make houses, pots, baskets, rugs. jewelry. toys, etc. out of paper, cardboard, etc.*
- compose songs or write "legends" for another culture*
- make replicas of items used in religious ceremonies or for spiritual purposes

* These activities can be made more authentic by having the children work with or under the direction of a person from the culture in question who can explain meanings and share experiences. It is a good idea to provide some sort of follow-up with the children after the activity to emphasize the interaction with the person rather than what was made, cooked, etc.

Developed by Ruth A. Gudinas, Curriculum Specialist, Department of Human Relations, Madison Metropolitan School District, with the assistance of Dorothy W. Davids, University of Wisconsin-Extension and Rebecca Bass Kaiser, Department of Human Relations, Madison Metropolitan School District.