“HIDDEN FIGURES” IN DEVELOPMENTAL SCIENCE

VIDEO 3:
HOW DIVERSITY ENHANCES THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DEVELOPMENTAL SCIENCE

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These materials and the accompanying videos were prepared as part of a project to increase the visibility of leading developmental scientists of color who have made critical research contributions and paved the way, through mentoring and advocacy, for younger scholars of color. We are grateful to the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation for financial support of the project and to Dr. Marisha Humphries at the University of Illinois at Chicago’s College of Education and the rest of the SRCD Teaching Committee for developing these materials. Please visit www.srcd.org to learn more about “Hidden Figures” in Developmental Science.
CENTERING DIVERSITY IN RESEARCH

TARGET “HIDDEN FIGURES” VIDEO

- Video 3: How Diversity Enhances the Contributions of Developmental Science (Length: 2.45 minutes)

TIME REQUIRED

Out-of-Class Activity: 45 - 60 minutes

GENERAL OVERVIEW

The pioneering developmental scientists of color in the video engage in research that centers diversity. Their work expands the field of developmental science with diverse perspectives and by centering the positive development of children of color. However, the work of these scientists is often “hidden.” This activity will introduce students to their research.

LEARNING GOALS

- Students will be able to conduct a literature search.
- Students will be able to evaluate developmental research articles/readings.
- Students will be able to identify how diversity benefits developmental science.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Video
- Access to a scientific database through university library (i.e., PsychInfo, ERIC, etc.)
- Developmental research article

TOPICAL AREAS/CLASSES

- Diversity in Development
- Theoretical Perspectives/Overview
- Social Development

INSTRUCTIONS/DESCRIPTION

Small Group Activity:

Divide students into small groups. Give each group the name of one of the scientists from the video (see list below). Have each group do a literature search on the scientist and identify a research article by the scientist. Students will read their group’s chosen article and identify three ways the research has enhanced the diversity of developmental science and the development of children of color.

Developmental Scientist:

- Dr. Yoonsun Choi
- Dr. Cynthia García Coll
- Dr. Diane Hughes
- Dr. Margaret Beale Spencer
ACTIVITY WORKSHEET

Conduct a literature search on your assigned developmental scientist (see below) and identify an article by the scientist to read and review. Then, identify three (3) ways this research has enhanced the diversity of developmental science or centers the development of children of color.

DEVELOPMENTAL SCIENTISTS

Dr. Yoonsun Choi  
Dr. Cynthia García Coll

Dr. Diane Hughes  
Dr. Margaret Beale Spencer

ARTICLE CITATION

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**BENEFITS OF DIVERSITY**

**TARGET “HIDDEN FIGURES” VIDEO**
- Video 3: *How Diversity Enhances the Contributions of Developmental Science* (Length: 2.45 minutes)

**TIME REQUIRED**
- Out-of-Class Activity: 90 - 120 minutes

**GENERAL OVERVIEW**
This activity highlights how diversity enhances our knowledge in developmental science. The inclusion of diversity allows for multiple perspectives to understand child/human development.

**LEARNING GOALS**
- Students will be able to evaluate developmental research articles/readings.
- Students will be able to identify the benefits of including diverse perspectives in developmental research.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS**
- Video
- Access to a scientific database through university library (i.e., PsychInfo, ERIC, etc.)
- Developmental research article or readings

**TOPICAL AREAS/CLASSES**
- Diversity in Development
- Theoretical Perspectives/Overview

**INSTRUCTIONS/DESCRIPTION**
Provide a list of different content areas of developmental research. Have students pick an area of developmental research and read two (2) different pieces of research about that area. One of the developmental research articles should center diversity in the research. After reading the research, students should compare and contrast the two articles and identify the benefits of the inclusion of diversity in developmental science/research.
ACTIVITY WORKSHEET

1. Read two (2) research articles/readings that relate to the same content area of developmental science. One of the articles must focus on the issue of diversity. Provide the citation for both research articles/readings.

**ARTICLE #1 CITATION (DIVERSITY CENTERED)**


**ARTICLE #2 CITATION**


2. After reading the research, compare and contrast the two pieces of research and identify the benefits of the inclusion of diversity in developmental science/research.

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<th>DIFFERENCES</th>
<th>BENEFITS OF INCLUDING DIVERSITY</th>
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VIDEO 3 DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

TARGET “HIDDEN FIGURES” VIDEO

- Video 3: How Diversity Enhances the Contributions of Developmental Science (Length: 2.45 minutes)

TIME REQUIRED

In-Class Activity: 10 minutes

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Diversity enhances our knowledge in developmental science. However, there often has been a singular focus on a deficit orientation and a focus that centers White middle class over all other groups. The inclusion of diversity allows for multiple perspectives to understand child and human development, especially for children of color.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Video only

TOPICAL AREAS/CLASSES

- Diversity in Development
- Theoretical Perspectives/Overview
- Developmental Contexts
- Vygotsky’s Sociocultural Theory

INSTRUCTIONS/DESCRIPTION

- Why might a focus on diversity be important for developmental science?
- How can diversity be embedded within the work or research of developmental science?
- Developmental science has been critiqued as focusing on negative and problem behaviors for children of color.
  - How does research from racially and ethnically diverse developmental scientists disrupt this narrative?
  - How might these scientists’ research help us understand the positive development of children of color?