

Re-Imagining Belonging; Welcoming Newcomers and Creating Community

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5/16

The Year of Belonging

Our Epidemic of Loneliness and Isolation



2023

The U.S. Surgeon General's Advisory on the
Healing Effects of Social Connection and Community

What Educators Need to Know About the ‘Epidemic of Loneliness’ Among Students



By Sarah D. Sparks — November 10, 2023 ⌚ 5 min read

The Health Consequences of Social Isolation “It Hurts More Than You Think”

Literature Review for Beyond Differences: Negative Correlates of Social Isolation

An Executive Summary Issued by
Beyond Differences

Compounding Isolation Factors



Social Media



Pandemic



Politics



Public Play Spaces

Demographic Shifts

1. **Decline in School-Age Population:** The 2020 census results revealed a decline in the youth population.
2. **Over 25% of the school-aged population:** are immigrants themselves or the children of immigrants.
3. **Shifts in Racial Makeup:** About a third of all census tracts where people of color were a majority in 2010 became more white by 2020.
4. **Linguistic Diversity:** The number of people who spoke a language other than English at home nearly tripled from 1980 to 2019.
5. **Nationwide Decline in White Youth Population:** The census data shows a nationwide trend of declining white population shares across many areas.

Opportunity to Re-Imagine



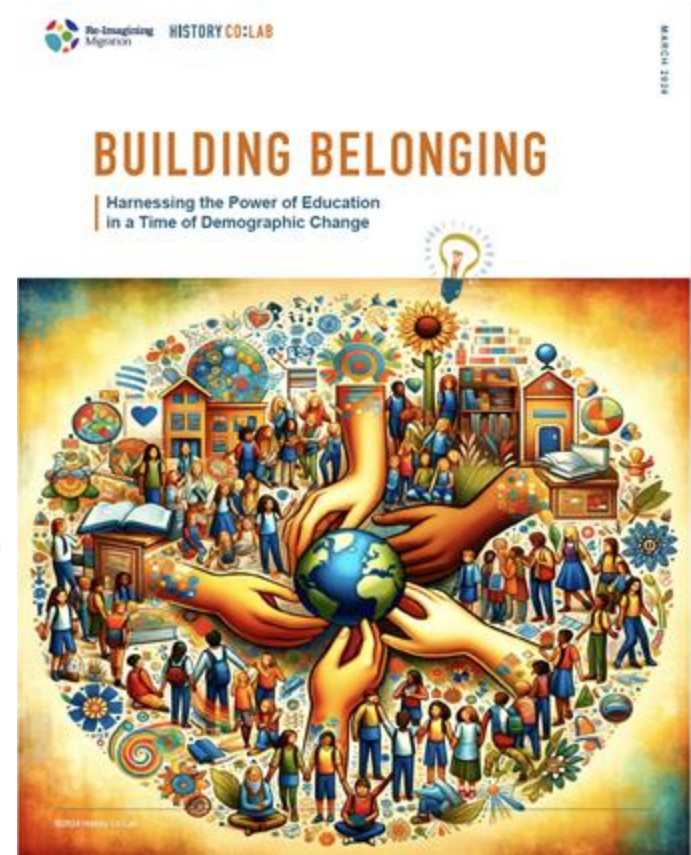
What does it mean to **serve** all students?

What it would mean for every student to feel like they
belong?

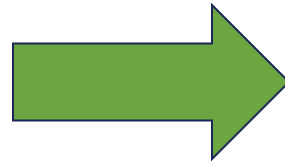
What is Belonging?

**To belong is to be
embraced**

**It is a feeling of safety,
support, celebration and
civic agency within a
community**



Promoting
Belonging



- Psychological Well-being
- Academic Success
- Social Cohesion
- Reducing Prejudice
- Promoting Inclusion
- Belonging and Othering
- Identity Development
- Mental Health Support

Deliberate policies and **practices** aimed at
fostering inclusive environments

What role do schools play in the physical, social-emotional, and academic development of young people?

What role do schools play in human development?

Physical

- Basic Needs: Breakfast & Lunch, Shelter, Facilities
- Physical & Developmental Education
- Movement & Contact
- Safety

Social Emotional

- Identity Formation
- Socialization
- Community Building
- Self-Actualization

Academic

- Foundational Knowledge
- Critical Reasoning
- Logical Analysis
- Creative Expression & Evaluation

**What about for
immigrant-origin
students specifically?**

Assimilation

when minority groups are encouraged to adopt the culture, values, and social behaviors of a majority group, often having to shed or hiding aspects of their culture

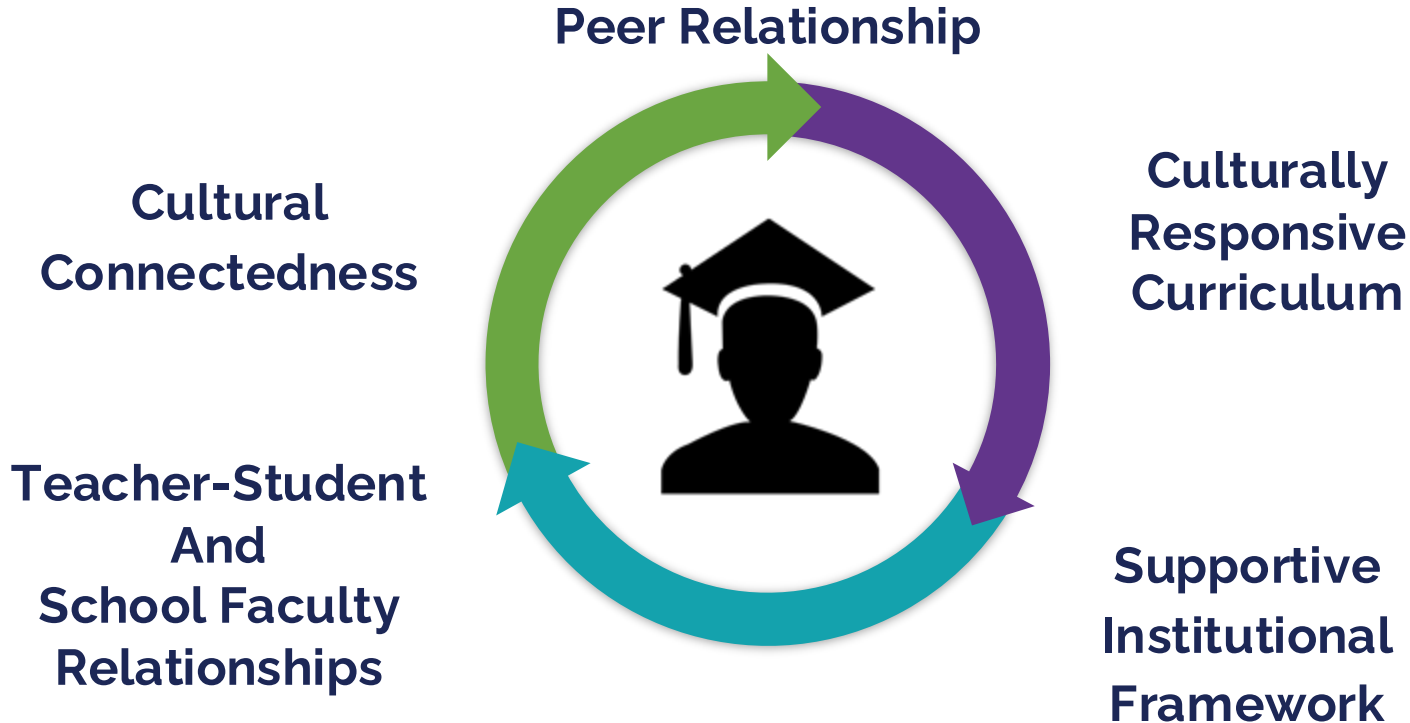
Integration

the process of blending the values, norms, behaviors, and practices of two or more cultures into a cohesive and complementary whole while allowing the retention of unique qualities and identity

Inclusion

belief that all children are different, will learn differently, and should have full access to the same curriculum with scaffolds, support, representation, celebration and civic agency

Navigating Belonging for All



Framework

Who are the young people
we are educating?



What are the most
important perspectives
for participating in a
world on the move?



How should we teach
about migration?



How can we create
powerful learning
environments for
all students?



How do we prepare
our educators for a
changing world?



Who are the young people we are educating?

1. They come from radically diverse experiences
2. Identities are formed in context
3. All young people bring indispensable assets to our communities
4. All young people have a right to an equal education
5. Young people thrive when they feel like they belong

Immigrant Origin Students Surveyed

Report a lower sense of school belonging than their non-immigrant peers.

Are more likely to report being bullied or harassed by their peers.

5 Steps

Learn and Grow

Deepen Learning
Opportunities

Make Diversity Visible

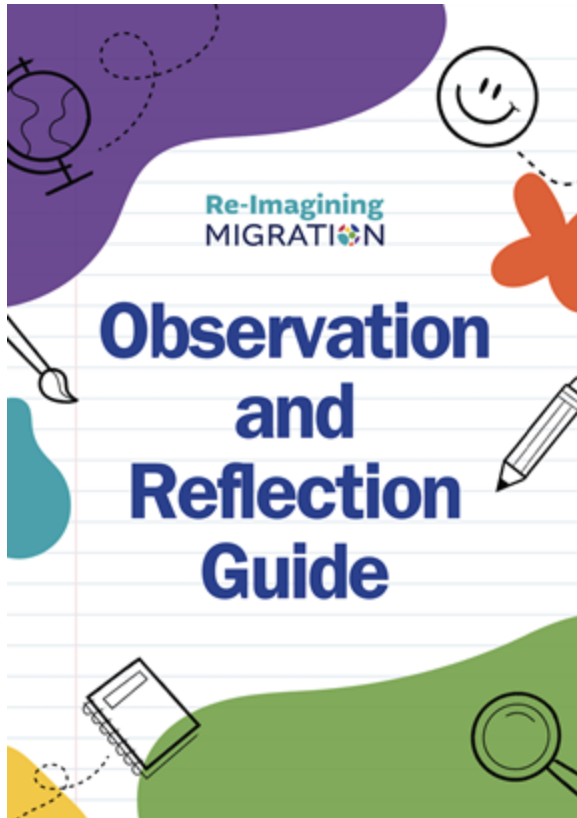
Ensure Safety and Inclusion

Build Trusting Relationships



Newcomer Kit

This resource is designed to aggregate materials for holistic newcomer intake

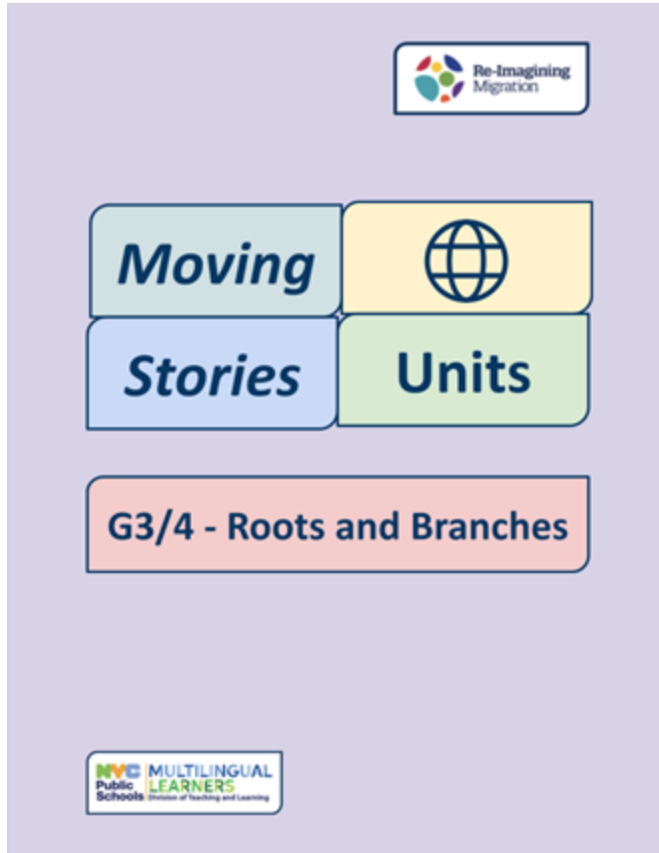


Observation Form

This resource provides educators with framework driven wholeschool, classroom, and individual student observation questions

Make Diversity Visible



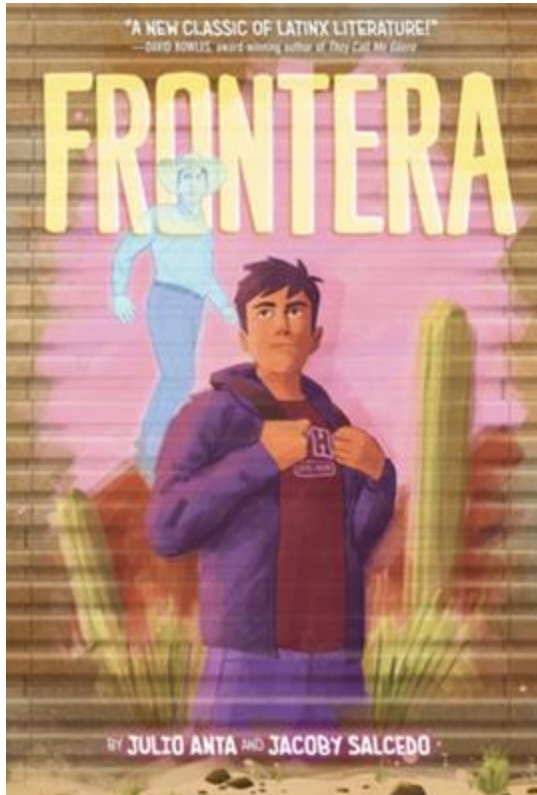


The graphic features a light purple background. At the top center is the 'Re-Imagining Migration' logo. Below it is a 2x2 grid of colored boxes: a light blue box with the word 'Moving', a yellow box with a globe icon, a light blue box with the word 'Stories', and a light green box with the word 'Units'. Below the grid is a pink rounded rectangle containing the text 'G3/4 - Roots and Branches'. At the bottom left is the 'NYC MULTILINGUAL Public Schools LEARNERS' logo.

NYC Moving Stories

“this unit is for all students because everyone has a moving story, and we all have a role to play in welcoming our new classmates, students and neighbors”

JOEL TROGE (He, Him, His)
Director of Long-term ELLs, Newcomers, and SIFE
New York City Public Schools



Fronter

- What is **a** home?
- Why does this story matter?
- How do borders impact people's lives? What moral, ethical, and legal questions do stories of migration raise?
- What real and “imagined” borders your students cross on the way to school? Are they physical? Psychological?

Additional Tool Types

Student Name:
Date:

Student Survey

Directions

First: For each statement below, select the number that best represents how much you agree with the statement. 1 means you strongly disagree, 5 means you strongly agree. Either **circle the number** or **write the number next to the words "Agreement Number."**

Second: Choose 3 of the below questions to expand on. Reflect on your choice, explain your selection, and list if you have any ideas as to what might move your number higher. No moment or example is too small. If you think it influenced your answers, capture it! You can answer in bullet points, short answers, and/or full sentences.



I can be myself around people at school and am included in activities.				
1 Strongly Disagree	2 Disagree	3 Neutral	4 Agree	5 Strongly Agree
Agreement Number: Why / Examples / What Would Move Your Score:				

I feel that people with my identity and background are represented in the curriculum in my school.				
1 Strongly Disagree	2 Disagree	3 Neutral	4 Agree	5 Strongly Agree
Agreement Number: Why / Examples / What Would Move Your Score:				

Community Guideline Building

Lesson Plan Key	
Powerpoint	The PowerPoint has slides for the Teacher (s) Introduction, Name Story, Community Guideline Building, and the Ecology of Self Activities. You can save a copy of the presentation and then edit and use it as you wish.
Teacher Says	Teacher Says – a moment when you as the teacher share out loud to the class
Teacher Note	Teacher Reflection Note – consist behind the activity
Teacher Directions	Teacher Directions - Actions to take to facilitate the lesson
Scaffold	Potential interventions to make content more accessible
Challenge	Potential ways to push your students' thinking
(Text)	Moments to heavily revise based on your class
All of the lesson plan is up to your discretion/desire to change/add to your specific classroom. The Teacher Says components are just guidance language; please change as you desire/fits you best!	

Community Guidelines Building – Lesson Plan	
Timing: Approx 50 mins	
Preface	<p>New Class vs. Intervention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New class: This activity is a great way to shape classroom culture from day/week one! The biggest driver for this activity is the teacher's enthusiasm to build a classroom in partnership with the students. Intervention: If this is a class or cohort you have been working with for a week or more and you have noticed some behaviors are starting to form that harm community/learning, you can approach this activity with the following framing.

Action Plan

1. What is your driving idea or question?
2. What will you do?
3. For whom?
4. To change what and why?
5. Where will you start?
6. What is the connection to the framework?

