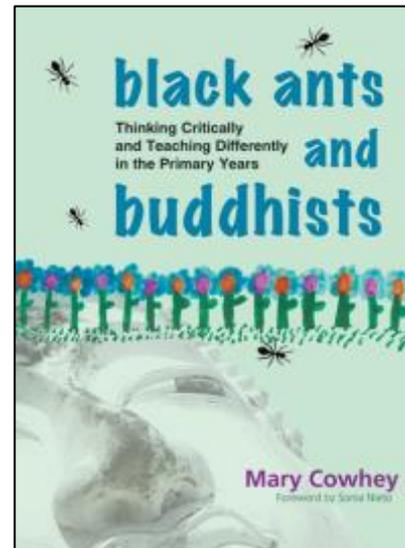


Black Ants and Buddhists: Thinking Critically and Teaching Differently in the Primary Years

Author(s): Mary Cowhey

Date Available: 24 November 2016
ISBN: 978 1 76001 787 3
Code/SKU: SHP7873
RRP: \$35.95
Format/Page No.: B5, 246 pages
Year Level: Teachers and Administrators
Focus Area: Professional Development
Key Learning Area: Cross-Curricular



Summary

What would a classroom look like if understanding and respecting differences in race, culture, beliefs and opinions were at its heart? Welcome to Mary Cowhey's Peace Class, where Year 1 and Year 2 students view the entire curriculum through the framework of understanding the world and trying to do their part to make it a better place.

Woven through the book is Mary's unflinching and humorous account of her own roots in a struggling Irish Catholic family and her early career as a community activist. Mary's teaching is infused with lessons of her heroes: Gandhi, Eleanor Roosevelt, Helen Keller, Martin Luther King Jr and others. Her students learn to make connections between their lives, the books they read, the community leaders they meet and the larger world.

If you were inspired to become a teacher because you wanted to change the world and instead find yourself limited by teach-to-the-test pressures, this is the book that will make you think hard about how you spend your time with students. It offers no easy answers, just a wealth of insight into the challenges of helping students think critically about the world and starting points for conversations about diversity and controversy in your classroom, as well as the larger community.

Other Resources

- *Managing Diverse Classrooms: How to Build on Student's Cultural Strengths* (107014)
- *Philosophy for Kids: Forty Fun Questions That Help You Wonder... About Everything!* (PRU9402)
- *Teaching Ethics: Care, Think and Choose – A Curriculum-Based Approach to Ethical Thinking* (HB2547)