



MI Farm to ECE Webinar Series:

Creating Culturally Relevant Farm to ECE Programs

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MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Center for
Regional Food Systems

WHAT IS CULTURAL RELEVANCY?

- **Environments that reflect the language and culture of children and families**
- **Creates environment of inclusion and supports children's social and emotional development**
- **Step 1: Get to know your kids**

FARM TO ECE AND CULTURAL RELEVANCY

- Culture and food are linked
- Food can be used as a tool to celebrate cultural diversity
- Farm to ECE can be a means for accessing and teaching about culturally relevant foods



LOCAL FOOD PURCHASING AND CULTURAL RELEVANCY

- **Access foods that are culturally relevant to communities you work with**
 - Work with farmers to request particular products that may not otherwise be available to you
- **Prepare new foods in ways that are culturally relevant**
- **Purchase from farmers in your community or reflective of your community**

FARM TO ECE IN ACTION

Colusa Indian Child Care



Community Action Partnership of Ramsey and Washington County



FARM TO ECE IN ACTION

Michigan Migrant and
Seasonal Head Start



Baxter Child Development
Center



CULTURAL RELEVANCY IN GARDENS

- Understand the children in your program
- Take stock of participation
- Parent inclusion
- Grow culturally relevant foods



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CULTURALLY RELEVANT FARM TO ECE EDUCATION

- Features books about food and agriculture that reflect your population
- Taste tests with culturally relevant food



QUESTIONS?

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Next Webinar: Wednesday May 31 1:00 pm
Creating Farm to School Lesson Plans
<http://mifarmtoschool.msu.edu>
