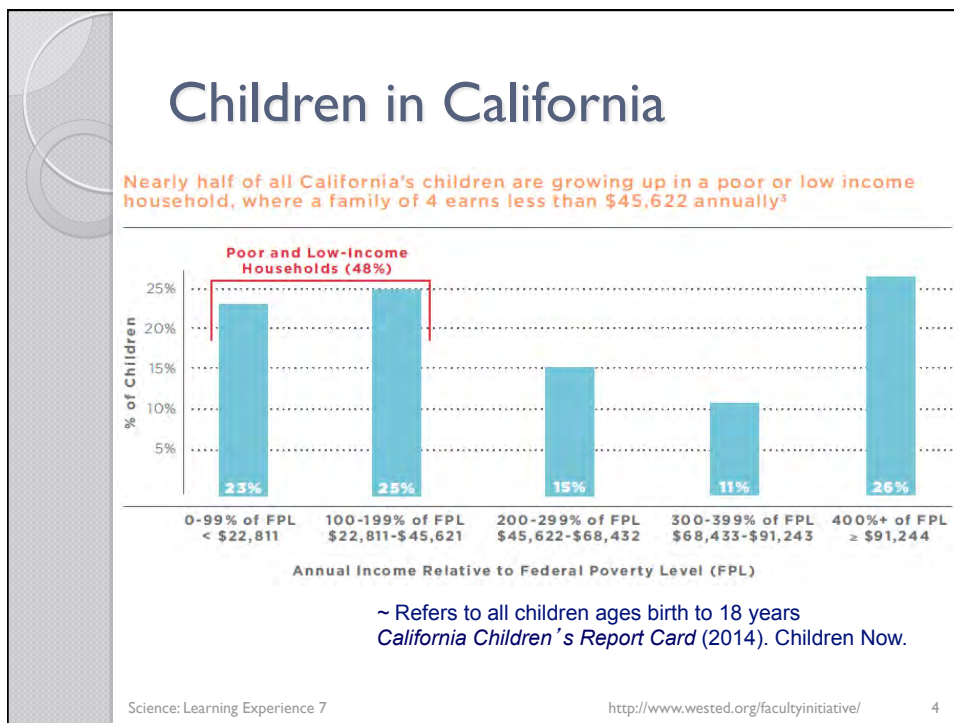
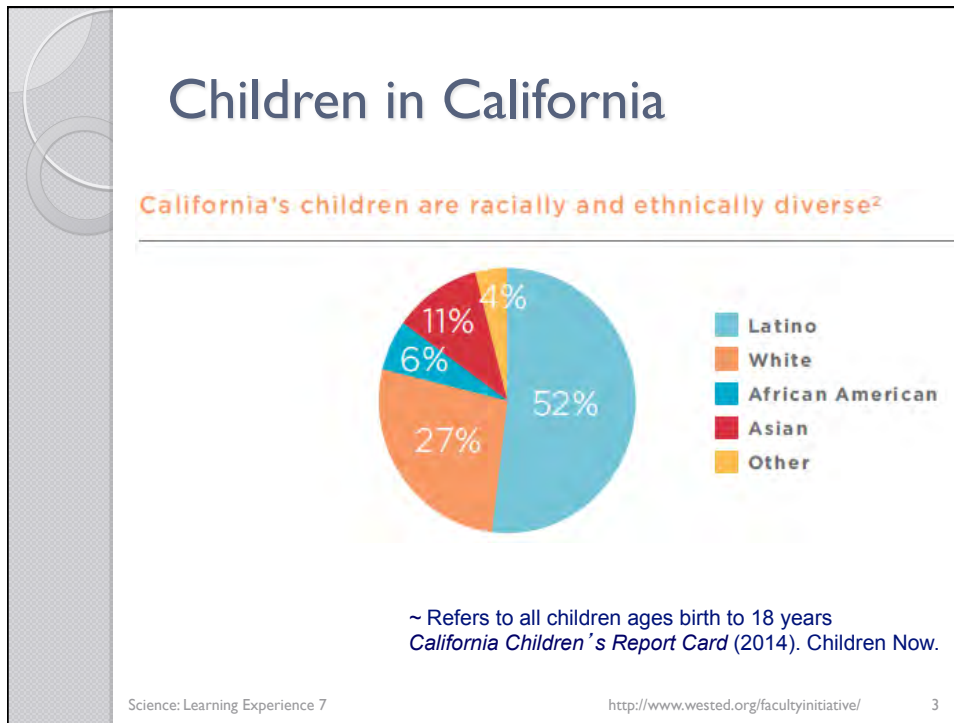


Children in California

Preschool children in California include those who:

- Are culturally diverse
- May speak a language other than English
- Have different abilities
- Come from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds

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Science

- Almost half of all children living in California live in immigrant families.
- 22% of students in California are English learners.
- The majority of students who are English learners are native Spanish speakers.

~ Refers to all children ages birth to 18 years
California Children's Report Card (2014). Children Now.

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Science



“Science is for all students, regardless of age, sex, cultural ethnic background, disabilities, aspirations, or interest and motivation in science.”

(National Committee on Science Education Standards and Assessment and National Research Council 1996, 20)

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Science

- Children approach scientific inquiry and explanation having various linguistic, social, and cognitive skills.
- Cultural background may shape the development of some scientific concepts.
- Experiences with the natural world affect children's understanding of science concepts.

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Science

- Many children in California are learning about scientific concepts and skills while acquiring English.
- Some children may communicate their science knowledge and skills using nonverbal means of communication.

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Science



- How might children's family and cultural backgrounds impact a their development of the skill or knowledge described in each science foundation?

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Science



While the development of scientific concepts is universal and salient in all cultures, cultural background may shape the development of some scientific concepts.

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Science



The language to which children are exposed and culturally shared belief systems may play a role in children's development of core biological concepts and reasoning.
(Anggoro, Waxman, and Medin 2005; Waxman and Medin 2006; Hatano and others 1993)

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Science

- How would you approach different cultural beliefs in your work with young children and the science foundations?



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Science



- Which consideration stands out the most for you? Why?
- Which considerations and examples were familiar to you? Which were new or caused you to have a different perspective?

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Science



- Which preschool science foundations do you think would be most impacted by a child's family, community, linguistic, and cultural background and experiences? Why?
- How would you learn about some of the cultural beliefs of children in your classroom that might relate to the science foundations?

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