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Reading between the Lines: The Impact of Multicultural Literature on Children's Perceptions of People of Different Cultures

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Within the last twenty years, the number of multicultural children’s books has greatly increased. Previous research has indicated that the use of this literature has an impact on children. This study focuses particularly on how multicultural children’s literature affects students’ perceptions of people of different cultures. Through a small focus reading group, pre- and post-reading surveys, and an informal discussion, this study addresses how students’ views of people may change from the reading of a multicultural book. The results of this study are significant to anyone working with children and can specifically help teachers and administrators know how the books they read to children can impact students toward cultural acceptance.