Understanding Equity in Education

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Equality vs Equity

Equality vs. Equity

[Diagram showing the difference between equality and equity]
Equality can be defined as treating every individual in the same manner irrespective of needs and requirements (Nedha, 2011).
Equity can be defined as the quality of treating individuals fairly based on their needs and requirements (Nedha, 2011). This does not denote that an equal material should be distributed to every individual. On the contrary, it highlights that things should be distributed based on the needs and requirements.
What is Educational Equity?

Educational equity means that every student has access to the educational resources and rigor they need at the right moment in their education across race, gender, ethnicity, language, disability, sexual orientation, family background and/or family income.
Equality doesn’t mean Equity
Why is Equity in Education Important?

- Creates opportunities for underprivileged and underserved students so they can overcome disadvantages and find success.
- Gives everyone the chance to learn in the way that best supports their learning style.
- Helps students become more engaged in what they’re learning by ensuring they see people who are their same race, gender, ethnicity, etc. in their learning.
- Grants students more access to the resources that can bolster their education.
- Closes the opportunity and achievement gap by making students equal.
Equality is giving everyone the same pair of shoes. Equity is giving everyone a pair of shoes that fits. Unknown
Questions?