

SESSION 2- SATURDAY MARCH 20TH, 2010

AUTHENTIC ASSESSMENT FOR ELLS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

SENSITIVITY EXERCISE: Looking Within Before Looking Out

TYPICAL FAMILY DINNER

Family mealtime is one of the most frequent cultural traditions practiced throughout the world. In most cultures the partaking of nourishment with the family is the most important part of the day. This is an exercise developed by noted anthropologist Fred Eriksson to sensitize our awareness to similarities and differences in others and ourselves.

Reflect on your experiences of the typical family dinner in your childhood. Discuss the activities, discussions and foods served during this daily home practice. The following should be included:

- A) Where did you sit?
- B) Provide specific examples of topics discussed during your family dinner.
- C) What were the specific roles of your parent/parents during the family dinner?
- D) What was your role during your family dinner?
- E) Recall if possible a specific dish prepared or your favorite dish prepared.

Share your family dinner with your table partners and create a Venn diagram of your similarities and differences. This information will be used to address the multitude of cultures we have in our schools and how this lens needs to be cross referenced with our use of authentic assessment.