

Cues and Messages

ACTIVITY

Cues and Messages

Instructions: Match the cue (left) with the message (right).

Cues

When we interact with others, we send small, subtle, often unconscious and unintentional micromessages that communicate value.

- 10 *Selecting class materials and textbooks without vetting them for gender inequities and stereotypes.*
- 11 *Only using males as examples of scientists, technologists, researchers, or people who are considered to be "smart."*
- 12 *Posing simple factual questions more to females, and challenging or multi-part questions more to males.*
- 13 *Not making opportunities for females to lead class projects or activities, or more often designating them as the note-takers.*

Messages

Micromessages are interpreted, often unconsciously, and may not reflect intention. Accumulation of these messages is powerful.

- A *Females are not expected to enter STEM or CTE fields, so they do not need to think deeply.*
- B *Females are not as visible as the males and therefore less valuable or important in the class or course.*
- C *Males are unable to control their impulses, but this is an acceptable part of their leadership development in class.*
- D *Females don't have the intellectual capacity for complex reasoning and have contributed nothing to the field. Males are better suited for some careers.*