



Engaged Research Discussion Series



Language Does Matter: How We Communicate Our Findings as Scientists

When collaborating with community, it's important to **HEAR** your partners

Hold
space for lived
experience

Engage
partners early
and often

Adapt
language
together

Revisit
as language and
relationships evolve

Inclusive Language Framework

Set Intentions

Start from a place where you feel ready and open to learning.
Then ask the following questions:

Consider Context

Does this term center dominant groups as the default, and/or perpetuate harmful stereotypes?

Does this term have a harmful history or association?

Does this term contribute to communication in which everyone feels respected and seen?

Does this term convey the intended meaning to all people precisely and effectively?

Continue using the term.

Center Inclusion

Can we find an alternate term that does a better job at communicating the message?

Implement Positive Change

Use the term with caution or decide not to use it. Consider explaining your choice to your audience.

Use the more inclusive term.