

Positive Role Modelling

Knack and Fixit are looking at a family collage of moments together, of learning, facing challenges and loving times.

Narrated Message // *Our children are the key to our future and we are their most important educators and role models. Our teachings are founded on values of honesty and truth. We are inspired by the values and traditions of our ancestors. We have respect for each other, for the land, and for the animal and plant life that surrounds us. We cherish harmony and peace and are proud of our heritage. Guided by our spiritual values, we aspire to attain our highest potential. When we share our traditional knowledge with our children's school we help enhance their personal and academic development.*

IDEAS

- Taking time to reflect on our interactions with children and each other, while understanding the challenges of being a consistent, positive role model. Sharing information about the impact of parents' behaviour on children's academic success.
- Holding positive thoughts in our imaginations for our children's future (parents and schools working in partnership so that the home and the school can share in these expectations and support learning). Sharing information about the importance of partnering with the school, and how to do it so we work toward that positive future.
- Watching our children be with others to gain insight into their strengths and challenges, and how to offer support.
- Connecting with our children's teachers and the school whenever possible. Getting involved (for example, volunteering for field trips or school activities, joining the School Council, helping with homework and offering encouragement).
- Celebrating successes—even small ones!

QUESTIONS FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

Family Members

1. What are some of the messages in this film?
2. Why is it important for us to contribute to our children's education? What is a parent's role in their children's home and school life?
3. How are you a positive role model in your children's life right now? Who else could be a positive role model in your children's life?
4. How can we, as parents, increase our children's chances of success at school?
5. Why might parents not know that they have a role to play?
6. What skills, information and support do parents need to feel confident and motivated in the school environment?
7. What suggestions or personal stories do you have to share?

School Staff and Community Leaders

1. Why might Aboriginal parents have difficulty seeing themselves as possible role models?
2. What information do parents need to increase their motivation and confidence?
3. Are there families at your school that might need extra support and encouragement? How could you reach out to them?
4. How can school staff encourage parents to see themselves as important contributors to their children's education?
5. What additional responses might further support and meet the specific needs of Aboriginal children and family members?
6. Who are the key people at your school or board who might help with this issue?