

# Creating a Space for Study

Specs needs a place to do homework and so a workspace is created just for this. Still, Specs can't concentrate with all the distractions. Fixit tries to help create a more tranquil space so that Specs can concentrate and work without difficulty.

**Narrated Message** // *Having a place where we can concentrate to do our work without distractions is nice. At home, we can help our children improve at school by providing them with a suitable space to study. Not all of us have a lot of space in our homes though, so finding a place to concentrate can sometimes be difficult. But if we all work together, are respectful and share, we can create a comfortable setting with minimal distraction. As parents we cannot become too distracting ourselves. Let's remember to always allow them access to our help and support. Listening to our children's input when we help them to create space and time for school work, culture, family and fun, can increase their interest in applying themselves to their studies and help them achieve balance.*

## IDEAS

- Finding physical space to work with. There may be many needs for space in the family. Thinking about community centres and libraries for learning space (and showing children other learning environments).
- Being aware of the importance of having appropriate study space for children. Helping children organize their time and create their learning space.
- Asking children to help organize their own space, and if possible, allowing them to have some control over where it is.
- Asking other members of the family to respect their learning space. Organizing set times when family members will try to not interrupt and keep the noise down.

## QUESTIONS FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

### Family Members

1. What are some of the messages in this film?
2. Why is it important to create a workspace at home?
3. How could this workspace be organized in your home? How have you managed so far? What success have you had?
4. Are there things that the school could do to help with this?
5. What other public spaces exist in the community where your children could do school work?
6. Do you have any suggestions or personal stories to share?

### School Staff and Community Leaders

1. What are ways to take action that can help students access study space?
2. What are the factors that might affect this?
3. Are there Aboriginal families at your school that might need support in this regard? Have you contacted them to discuss this?
4. How could a teacher or the school help communicate the importance of appropriate study space for students to parents?
5. Are there study spaces at school or in the community that students and parents could be made aware of?
6. Who are the key people at your school or board who might help with this issue?
7. What additional responses and strategies might further support and meet the specific needs of Aboriginal children and family members?