



HOME AND SCHOOL COLLABORATION

Toof is struggling with an arithmetic problem. **Knack** wants to help but is also overwhelmed. **Knack** decides to consult and get help from the teacher and is now able to help **Toof**, to everyone's satisfaction.

MESSAGE

How valuable it is for parents to seek assistance from teachers and the school to get help for their children and improve their chances of academic success.

Narrated Message

What is collaboration with the school all about? A positive relationship with our children's teachers can effectively improve their well-being at school and in general.

A partnership between home and school plays an important role in our children's academic success. It is the cornerstone of a healthy learning and living environment.

ISSUES

- Learning about the importance of helping children with school work
- Knowing more about expectations, learning goals, teaching strategies and the curriculum
- Feeling confident approaching teachers or the school

STRATEGIES

- Asking teachers and school staff for help
- Checking in with teachers regarding best ways to help children with their homework
- Exploring online and community resources (for example, homework, research)
- Considering different skills and talents family members have that might contribute to children's academic success at school

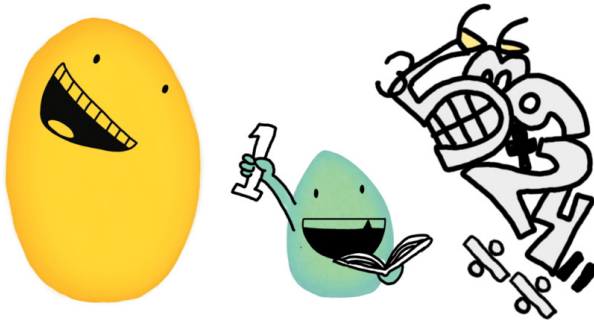
QUESTIONS FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

Parents

1. What are some of the messages this vignette offers?
2. What are other ways that parents and teachers might work together to help support student success?
3. Would you like to have additional opportunities to work with teachers or other school staff to work on this?
4. Do you feel you know enough about your children's school work and school life?
5. Are there things that the school might do to help you get more support?
6. Do you have any suggestions or personal stories to share?

School Staff

1. Why is two-way communication between home and school so important for student success?
2. What factors might affect parents' collaboration?
3. What are other mechanisms that might support parent and teacher collaboration and enhance student success?
4. Are there families at your school that require particular encouragement or strategies for supporting their children?
5. How can the teacher or the school help enhance parents' involvement?
6. Are there additional opportunities for doing so that could be explored and implemented?



RESOURCES

- Who's Responsible for Your Child's Education?
<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/document/brochure/whosresp.html>
- What is My Child Learning?
<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/curriculum.html>

SCHOOL STAFF

- Ask a Teacher Learning Resources
<http://www.ilc.org/aat/index.php>

