



**Roots of Empathy**  

---

**Racines de l'empathie**

**Roots of Empathy**

**2019 Annual Program Evaluation Report**

**Saskatchewan**

**“I personally feel that this program is an asset to our school and the wider community. It makes me so proud to hear from parents that our students are making connections to what they have learned in the program in the community and their own homes. It fosters a community of caring.”**

- *Grade 1 Teacher, Gordon Denny Community School, Air Ronge*

**“I noticed that as the program progressed, students were more able to identify when a fellow student was feeling 'not ones usual self' and that they responded appropriately. It was a great class of kind, caring, forgiving, happy and energetic group of students. They will be wonderful future adults.”**

- *Grade 3/4, Christ the King School, Shaunavon*

*Our mission is to build caring, peaceful, and civil societies through the development of empathy in children and adults.*



**When asked, “What can Roots of Empathy teach the world?” students reported:**

“To help everyone, treat people better.”

- Grade 4, Saskatoon

“To help people, not bully them.”

- Grade 4, Saskatoon

“Roots of empathy can teach the world what to do if you get [have] a baby, and how to understand a different person’s feelings”

- Grade 3/4, Shaunavon

“How to help and be kinder to people, and understand their feelings.”

- Grade 3/4, Shaunavon

**When asked about the impact of the program, teachers offered comments such as**

“Most aggressive behaviours ceased by the end of the year. Some students became very empathetic to others and would not need me to intervene at all.”

- Grade 1, Air Ronge

“I think Roots is really important for fostering the core beliefs of the program of love, feelings are ok to express, empathy and thinking about others instead of yourself. These are all pretty critical at this age.”

- Grade 1, Air Ronge

“I’ve noticed a change in my students’ behaviour and their ability to express what they are feeling or need at a particular time. This is different from earlier in the year. The students are more patient with each other and in tune to their feelings. They have grown and matured along with our Roots of Empathy baby.”

- Grade 1, Air Ronge

“There have been so many opportunities within the program for the children to make personal connections, both to their own experiences and what they have observed in our baby. This has a huge impact on their learning. I have witnessed numerous times this year how the kids are able to connect to these topics in other areas of learning, and apply them to their own day to day experiences.”

- Grade 1, Air Ronge

**When asked about the impact of the program, Roots of Empathy Instructors offered comments such as:**

“They became more considerate in reacting to issues, took seriously the issue of family relationship, love, caring and bonding. They were thrilled and impressed with the understanding level of mom despite the fact that the Baby cannot communicate verbally. Taught them a lesson of respect for parents, teachers and people generally. They planned to always defend those that may be oppressed / bullied.”

- Grade 4, Saskatoon

**When asked about the impact of the program, Roots of Empathy volunteer parents offered comments such as:**

“It teach the world the important of parenthood, to be responsible, and how to watch baby grow out of danger etc”

- Grade 4, Saskatoon

“How you treat others matters. Everyone's feelings count and should be respected. Babies are wonderful teachers for this.”

- Grade 3, Moose Jaw

“The children became more engaged with my little one, they developed a relationship with them that evolved outside of the classroom.”

- Grade 3/4, Shaunavon