



## **What is Tribes?**

Tribes is a process that leads to a caring environment that promotes cooperative learning, and a structured environment for positive interaction and ongoing group productivity. It is a program that enables ownership for all participants as it encourages democratic involvement and teaches the skills necessary to achieve these goals. Tribes promotes a comfort level in the learning environment that allows risk taking opportunities for kids, and so, encourages deeper learning and in depth discovery.



## **How Does Tribes Work?**

The process of developing a Tribes TLC<sup>®</sup> classroom includes the development of three basic stages:

### **Inclusion, Influence, and Community**

Through numerous activities and specific planning strategies outlined in the Tribes TLC<sup>®</sup> textbook, and other resources, teachers facilitate the process through these stages. The process experienced by the Tribes TLC<sup>®</sup> classroom is supported by four basic 'ways of being'. These are called the Four Tribes Agreements. They include:

#### **Mutual Respect**

**The Right to Participate (or) The Right to Pass**

**Attentive Listening**

**Showing Appreciation (or) No Put Downs**



### **Inclusion**

In this stage students are encouraged to 'present self'. Through numerous activities that are fun and involving, participants will:

- 1) learn about each other on a personal level
- 2) talk and work with numerous different people in the community
- 3) develop a sense of self worth, trust, validation, respect, and belonging
- 4) recognize a feeling of comfort and calm in their learning environment.



### **Influence**

In this stage students are encouraged to express their differences to influence others. Using numerous strategies participants will:

- 1) express opinions and attitudes, and personal feelings
- 2) present ideas without the fear of others passing judgment, and encourage respect for other people's opinions and attitudes
- 3) be involved in activities that ensure the participation of all group members in the decision making process
- 4) share leadership and roles within the group framework.



### **Community**

In this stage participants are encouraged to reflect on the ongoing process in which they are involved. Strategies used to introduce this stage will teach participants to:

- 1) recognize and resolve conflict as it arises
- 2) learn and practice collaborative skills
- 3) reinforce appropriate treatment of each other
- 4) appreciate the importance of the reflection process.



**Tribes TLC® Teachers Will:**

- \* Learn new effective strategies to create a comfortable, exciting and productive classroom.
- \* Improve at developing creative, structured lessons that will facilitate active learning and enhance the possibility for curricula integration.
- \* Enhance classroom management skills through more 'helping' and less 'disciplining' of behaviour issues.
- \* Recognize the importance of reflection as an integral part of the learning experience and be adept at incorporating reflection in their daily planning.
- \* Be able to monitor and assess student's understanding and behaviours regularly and easily.
- \* Increase knowledge about the benefits of collaborative and cooperative education.
- \* Acquire a better understanding about how to apply brain compatible learning and multiple intelligences in programming.
- \* Experience the process with which they will be involving their students.