# SEY2KT School District Sooke #62





How can we make sure we are able to create a smooth transition from Early Years to Kindergarten for all families and students?

**Guiding Principles** 

- Inclusive of all families/learners- (Equity and Access) Our belief that no matter where students come in to K they are able to feel a sense of belonging and that they are successful. With Story Workshop they can be confident in themselves.
- First People's Principals of Learning –learning takes patience and time, not traditional blocks of learning, exploring who we are and where we live, oral story telling. Learning can't be separate from place. It is part of our identity–who we are and where we are, nature was the first classroom– what can we bring in from the world around us.

## What most resonated with us?

How can we reduce barriers?

Location

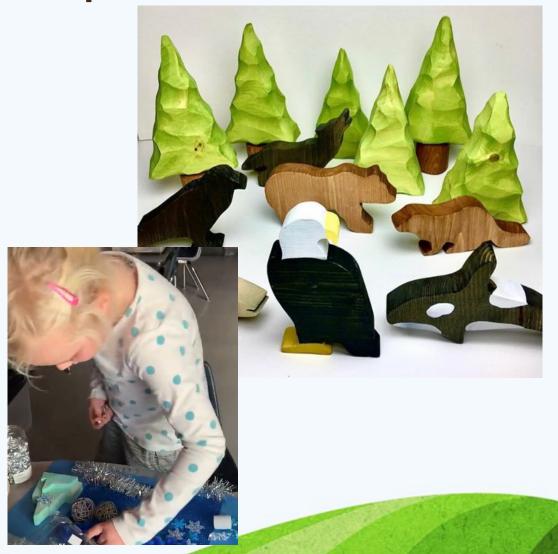
**Personal School Experiences** 

#### COVID

## Our shift from Kickstart to Kindergarten to Story Workshops







#### **Story Workshops Goals**

- Create trusting relationships with all families coming to Kindergarten
  - Welcome video, bags, virtual meetings, online survey and email communication

Connecting with community providers and families to create continuity with shared language, learning opportunities and familiar resources (story workshops/books)

- Story workshop complete bins for Community Providers, Families at home and John Muir classrooms.
- Professional Books-school staff and community program staff
- Mentor Texts (Picture Books/Early Readers) Home, Community, School (Books that represent West Coast, First Nations and all learners)
- Supplies/manipulatives/loose parts

#### Next Steps...

- Creating accessible guides for families to support their child's learning through play and story workshops at home.
- Collaborating with community partners and modeling how to engage children with Storywork experiences to increase their oral language and understanding of story.
- Hosting family events that focus on building relationships and connections to the school and deepening their understanding of how to nurture their child's positive school experience.