



MODULE

1

Education is important

Parent Empowerment Programme

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NECT Sponsors



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Unions:



Government:



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These materials are currently being evaluated and will be improved on the basis of the evaluation.



Preface

We know that the children who are most likely to be successful at school are those who are supported by their parents and caregivers. The NECT has prepared and adopted a series of training modules that are designed to equip us as parents and caregivers with the knowledge and skills we need in order to provide support for our children's schooling. The modules are based on guidelines for parents published by the Department of Basic Education.

As parents and caregivers, we all want our children to succeed. This first module looks at why education is important for our children's success. Through discussions and reflection, we will explore the future we see for our children and the important role that education plays in that future. The module also begins to explore the many ways that we can support our children to learn. Subsequent modules will focus on specific skills and knowledge to help us provide our children with the support they need.

The modules are designed to be facilitated in a workshop setting or to be used in guiding an open conversation with a group of parents. At the end of the engagement, you will have a better understanding of the importance of education, and will be able to demonstrate new ways of showing your children that you value education and schooling.

Your children will also be provided with training on the importance of education as a basis for empowering them to manage their own learning.

GODWIN KHOSA
CEO
NECT

Education is important

A guide for parents, caregivers and guardians

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Introduction

Is education important to you?

Answer this question by placing a tick (✓) in one of the boxes below.

Yes

☐

No

☐

Questions you will answer in this module

Why is education important?

How will education benefit my child?

What can I do to help my child succeed?

Does my child learn in school only?

Does my child think education is important?

I want my child to succeed ...

Look at the pictures below.



What does success mean to you?

People have different ideas about what success means. Do the ideas listed below mean success to you? Tick (✓) ☐ Yes or ☐ No

Ideas of success	Tick Yes or No
1. A nice house or a nice car	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2. Being happy	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3. Doing a job that you enjoy, even if it is not very well paid	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
4. Getting a good matric	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
5. Making lots of money	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
6. Being married with children	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
7. Travelling to other countries	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
8. Being respected in the community	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
9. Being well known and popular	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
10. Getting a university or college education	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
11. Are there any other things that mean success to you? Discuss them with your group.	

The future you see for your child

Imagine your child in the future

Do you want your child to be successful?

What do you want to see?

Write down your ideas about your child as a successful adult and share them with your group.

Think about ...

their family relationships

their role in the community

their values

their work and career

their emotional wellbeing

their health



their friendships

Someone you admire

Think of someone you admire.

Write the person's name in the box.

Do you think this person is successful?

Tick (✓) one box.

Yes

No

I admire this person because ...

Write down three reasons why you admire this person.

1.

2.

3.

What are the three most important things that you believe made this person successful?

List the reasons in the boxes.

1.

2.

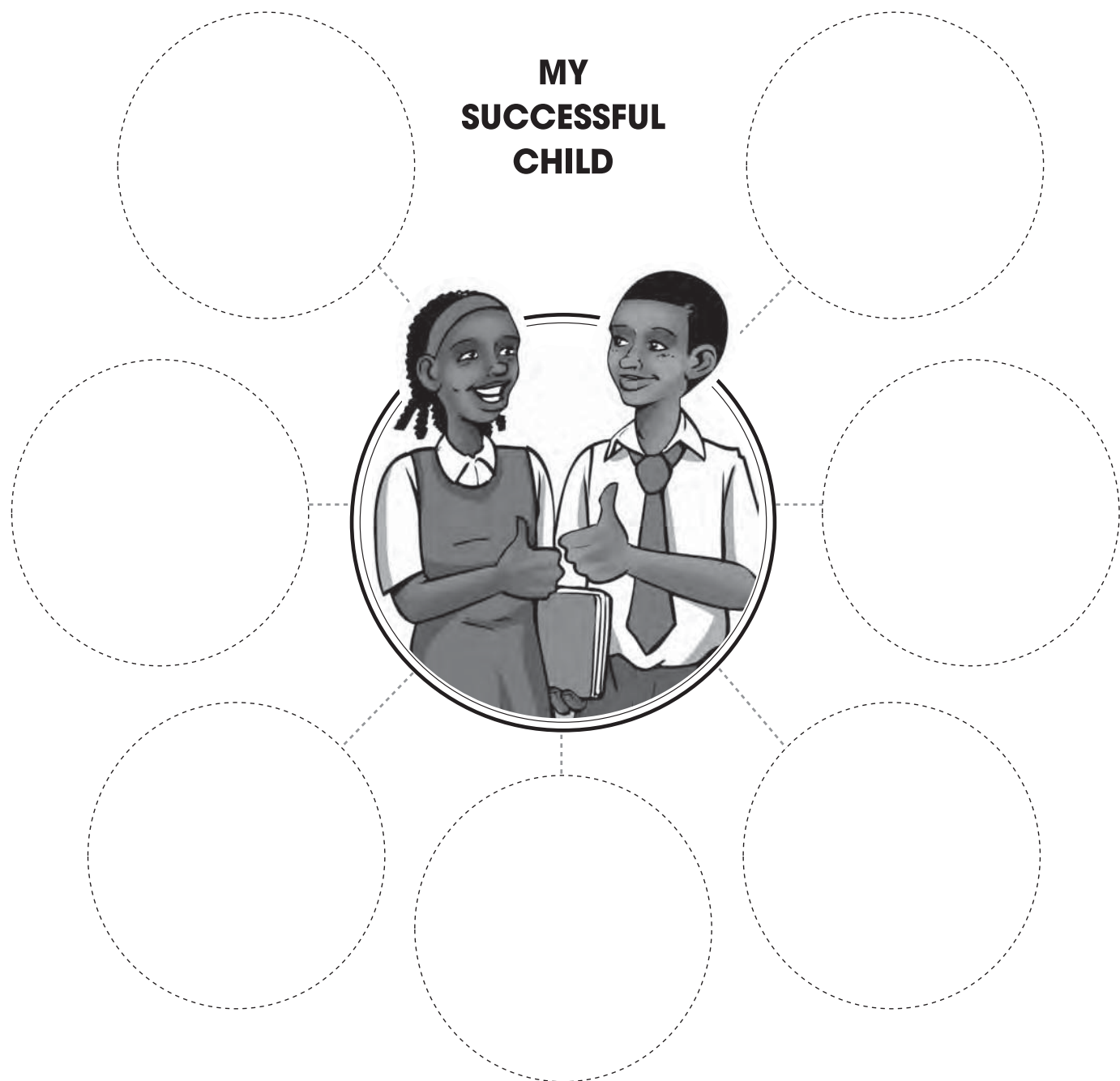
3.

Share your answers with members of your group.

Your successful child

Look at the diagram below.

1. Think about all the things that could help your child to succeed.
2. Write them down in the circles around the main heading.
3. What are the three most important things that you think will help your child to succeed in life?



Education is important

We all want the best for our children and education is an important part of this.

Education has many benefits.

Education will help your children to:

- get jobs that they enjoy doing
- earn more money
- make wise choices about their health
- gain technical skills and knowledge
- have a better understanding of the country they live in
- have a better understanding of their place in the world
- be good citizens
- promote peace and understanding in their own communities
- be the best that they can be

Learning happens all the time and everywhere

As a group, look at the pictures below.
What are these people learning to do? Who is teaching them?



What is the person
learning?

Who is teaching
them?



**What is the person
learning?**

**Who is teaching
them?**



Learning happens at home, in your community and at school.
Discuss these questions in your group and write your ideas in the box below:

What important things did you learn from your parents?

What important things have you taught your child to do?

Where learning takes place

Children learn	Do you agree? Yes/No	If you said yes, what can they learn from these people or places?
... from their parents	<div>Yes</div> <div>No</div>	
... from other learners and friends	<div>Yes</div> <div>No</div>	
... in the community	<div>Yes</div> <div>No</div>	
... from family: uncles, aunts, grandparents	<div>Yes</div> <div>No</div>	
... from newspapers	<div>Yes</div> <div>No</div>	
... from radio and TV	<div>Yes</div> <div>No</div>	
... at church	<div>Yes</div> <div>No</div>	
... in a taxi	<div>Yes</div> <div>No</div>	
... at school	<div>Yes</div> <div>No</div>	
... on the sports field	<div>Yes</div> <div>No</div>	

My values and beliefs

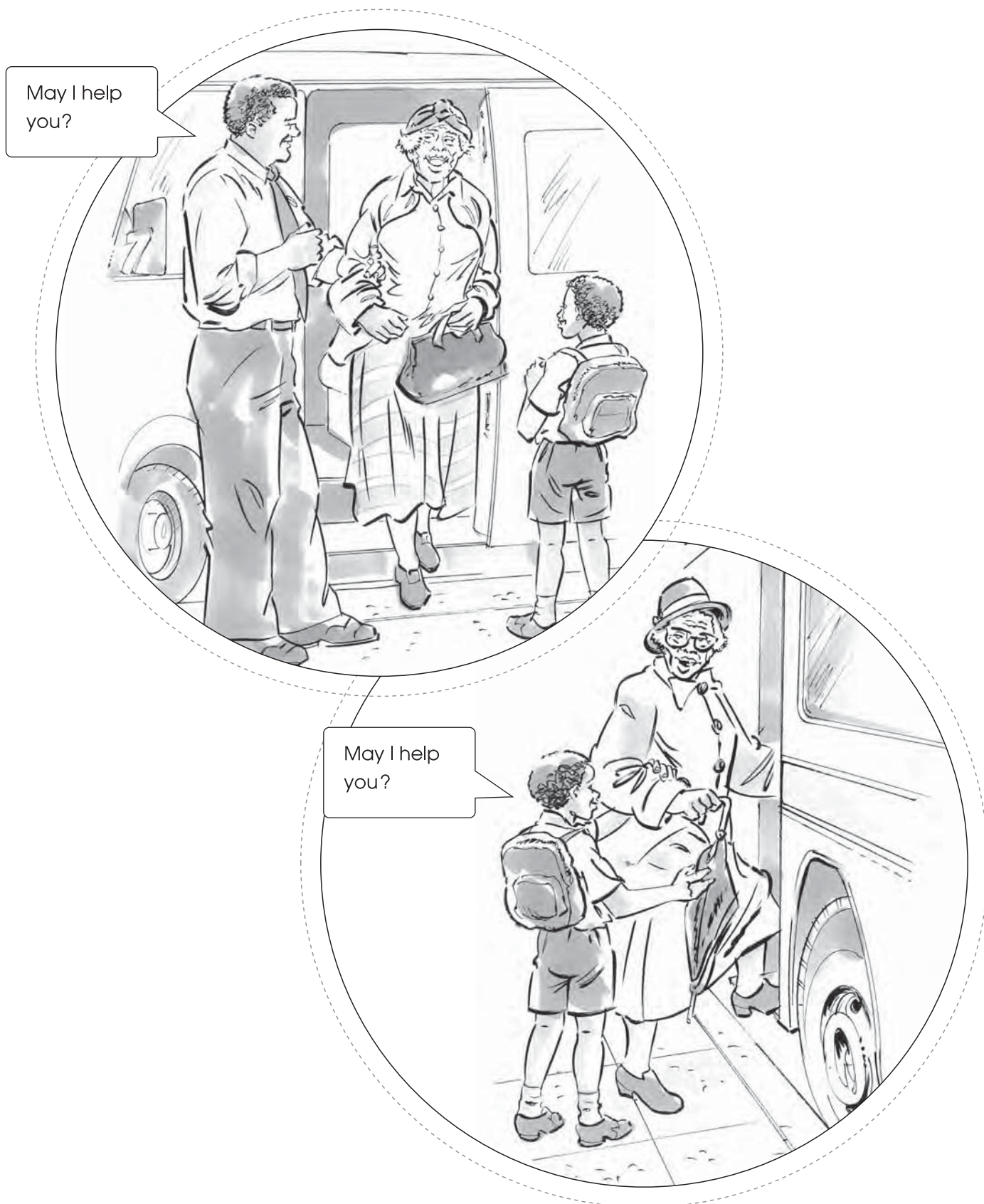
We pass on our skills and the things we know to our children and we learn from them too. We also pass on our values and beliefs. What values and beliefs are important to you?

In the spaces below, list the values that are important to you as a parent, and list those that you teach your child.

<p>Values and beliefs</p> <p>Choose from here or add your own</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hard work• Honesty• Respect for learning• Telling the truth• Helping others• Respect• Discipline• Loving others• Patience• Respect for culture• Religious beliefs• Keeping one's promises• Courage to stand up for what is right• Teamwork• Punctuality and respect for time• Knowing right from wrong	<p>Values and beliefs that are important to you</p>	<p>Values and beliefs that you teach your child</p>
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As a group, discuss the values you think are the most important. Make a list of the five most important values.

How children learn values



How you pass your values on to your children

Children learn from us through the way we behave and the examples that we set them. Think about your own experience.

In the table below, look at the list of ways in which values can be passed on to children. Write down the ways you teach your children values now, and how you will teach them in the future.

Ways of passing values on to your children	The things you do now	What you will do in the future
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• By an example• By getting cross with them• By letting them see the example set by others• By encouraging reading• By sharing stories that tell of good values• By speaking about South African heroes• By speaking about heroes from other parts of the world• By watching the news on TV and pointing out sound values• By watching movies and TV shows and pointing out characters with good values and beliefs• By praising people who show good values• Other ways		

The value of education

Is education important to you as a parent?

Yes

No

Do you show your children that you think education is important? How?

How you show your child that you value education

Make a list below

Other things you could do to show your child that you value education

Make a list below

