

*Sample Introductory Letter for Schools*

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

GETTING READY - APPENDIX C

This letter is to tell you some exciting news that will affect children in our classroom this year. We have been invited to participate in a program called Roots of Empathy https://rootsofempathy.org/. This award-winning program supports children’s positive mental health and well-being.

A Roots of Empathy Instructor will be introducing us to baby , a “Tiny Teacher”,

a baby from your community that we will get to know through nine monthly Visits to our classroom. Over the course of the school year, we will watch the baby grow. The children predict and cheer when their Roots of Empathy baby reaches the ‘developmental milestones’ of the first year: “She can roll over!” “He got his first tooth!” “She can clap hands!” “He can sit up!” “She can wave!” “He can crawl!!”

The Roots of Empathy Instructor also coaches the children in observing and reading the emotional cues of the baby. The Instructor will use this discussion as a lever for the children to talk about their own emotions and to understand how their classmates feel. Roots of Empathy is founded on the loving relationship between a parent and baby, which is where empathy starts.

Roots of Empathy is an award-winning program delivered in every province of Canada and on three continents around the globe. Founded in 1996, over 1,200,000 children have been learning to respect and care for one another with the lessons started through their Roots of Empathy baby. Roots of Empathy is a tried, tested and proven effective program that increases children’s kindness, caring, including, sharing and helping behaviours as they develop empathy. Research from three continents shows that as empathy develops, aggression and bullying behaviours are reduced. You may want to visit our website [www.rootsofempathy.org](http://www.rootsofempathy.org/) and watch our 1-minute video that shows the impact of the program.

We are excited that we’ve been chosen to participate in Roots of Empathy, and we hope you are too.

Sincerely,

[Teacher Name]

[WWW.ROOTSOFEMPATHY.ORG](http://WWW.ROOTSOFEMPATHY.ORG/)

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