Emerging Minds.

National Workforce Centre for Child Mental Health

Deadly dads: Jack Buckskin

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In our culture, your home and the Land you stand on is the most central thing that any of us have.

JACK BUCKSKIN

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples should be aware that this resource may contain images or names of people who have passed away.

In this video you will hear Jack talk about his hopes and challenges in parenting his three children. Jack speaks of his children being central to his world and will describe the cultural factors that have supported him on his parenting journey. Language and cultural revitalisation are pivotal protective factors for Jack. In the midst of an urban community, Jack has developed a network of connections including to extended kinship, Country and cultural practices.

Learning objectives

- Language, connection to Country and cultural identity are important considerations in the support provided to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander fathers.
- Parenting practices can look different in different cultures.

Consider the following questions individually, or in a group.

 Jack spoke about his challenge as a parent of helping his children navigate their feelings and emotions. How might you support Jack to explore this challenge and find ways he may be able to feel confident to navigate these emotions?

This resource was co-designed by:







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- Extended kinship connections are important to Jack – this is seen as he talks of his uncle. What questions might you ask Jack to bring these relationships into your conversations and support strategies?
- What are the ways Jack has managed to build cultural identity for his children? List down the protective factors Jack speaks about.
- Jack spoke about his parenting practice of building autonomy and resilience for his children. Is this different to non-Aboriginal parenting? How would you hear about these different cultural practices in parenting?

Related resources

- Working and walking alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people: A practical guide for non-Indigenous workers (Emerging Minds)
- What are child-rearing practices in Aboriginal and Torres Strait cultures? (Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care – SNAICC)

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