



Kashudoha



# Goldbelt Heritage Institute

*"Drink from the Vessel of Traditional Knowledge."*

## *The Tlingit Way: How to Treat Salmon*

Alaska Bilingual Education Center

**Book Summary** This booklet tells about Tlingit life in the past. It explains how Tlingit traveled to summer fish camp, how they caught and prepared salmon and ways in which people acted to show respect toward salmon so that the salmon would return each year.

**Before Reading** Let your child know that this book tells about Tlingit life in the past and does not reflect contemporary life. However, your child should also know that acting in a respectful manner and showing respect for living things is ageless; it continues to have merit and should be practiced today. Talk with your child about how we show respect for all living things and particularly salmon. If your child does not know ways in which we show respect, let him/her know that this is what this story is about and that he/she should listen for and remember ways to show respect toward salmon.

**During Reading** As you read, your child may have questions about the story or the pictures. Be sure to stop and explain what was said in language that is clear to your child. If you own traditional fishing tools, this might be a good time to bring them out and explain them to your child. Do you make dry fish or smoked salmon? If so, talk with your child about how we prepare these today, comparing it with ways described in the booklet.

**After Reading** Ask your child to tell you about one way in which salmon were caught. Or you might turn to a page with a picture of one method used for catching salmon and ask your child to tell about that method. Ask your child to recall one way in which the Tlingit, in the past, showed respect for salmon. Talk about how we show respect for salmon or for other living things today. If you and your child have heard a version of "Salmon Boy", compare what was learned in that story to what was learned in *The Tlingit Way: How to Treat Salmon*.

Parent guide for *The Tlingit Way: How to Treat Salmon*, a suggested parent read-aloud that is available in the resources section of the "Salmon" cultural curriculum unit.

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