

# Responsibility: Lesson 2

## IN SPITE OF THE WEATHER

### Say:

When the Alaskan Pipeline was being built, there were many Texans who went to Alaska and found work on the pipeline. The Texans could only work a few hours in the frigid weather, yet the Eskimos, the native Alaskans, could work indefinitely in the cold. They decided to do a study to find out why the Eskimos could withstand the weather. After much study they found that there were no physiological differences between the Eskimos and the Texans. There was nothing in skin thickness, blood, or any other thing physically that would explain the differences in the ability to withstand the temperatures. The solution came when they did a psychological study. The difference was the Eskimo said "he knew it was cold but there was a job to be done." In other words, his focus was on the job and obtaining results rather than on the weather. The Texan focused on the weather and this kept him from focusing on the job at hand.

You are responsible for performing. Your focus is to be on the job. You are to be results-oriented. When you go to practice in August, it will be hot. When you play in December, it will be cold. There is a likelihood we may play in the rain or even snow. You are responsible to perform. You are responsible to focus on performance, not the weather.

Weather cannot dictate performance. As proud as we are to be \_\_\_\_\_ (use your school mascot), our attitude to athletic performance has to be that of the Eskimos. We know it is \_\_\_\_\_ (hot, cold, wet) but we are focusing on the job, not the weather.

### Do:

1. Lead the class in a discussion of the questions on the student worksheet. Spend a considerable amount of time on question #1, generating many ideas from the team.
2. Review the word of the day. Ask someone to use it correctly in a sentence.