Bucketfilling Ideas to Create Bucketfilling Schools

May 2, 2010, Volume 1, Number 9

STEP NINE

Being a bucket filler to parents and students

The best way to fill a parent's bucket is to tell them that their child is working hard, being considerate of others, and doing their best at school.

Educators who understand bucket filling and make a daily habit of genuinely and specifically filling children's buckets, especially those who who need it the most, truly make a positive difference.



Ideas for Filling Parents' Buckets

■ TGIF

Promise yourself to make a phone call or send an email to one parent before you leave school every Friday. Say how proud you are of their child's efforts and progress during the week. You'll fill at least three buckets, yours, the parent's, and the child's. You'll be rewarded with even better behavior in the following week.

■ End of the Year Bucket Filler

As the school year draws to a close, make a commitment to write a short note to the parents of each child in your class. Fill their buckets by letting them know how much you enjoyed having their child in your classroom. Be honest and specific as you write about what their child did to put a smile on your face.

Ideas for Filling Students' Buckets

■ End-of-the-Year Bucket Filler

Sometime during the year, when you've gotten to know your students, make a list of their names. As you look at each name, think of what that child means to you. What little things have they done that touch your heart? Focus on their strengths and behaviors — the bright smile they give you each day, how good they are at math, the way they help others, how hard they have worked, etc.



- Beside each name, write two or three specific ways that child has filled your bucket.
- Choose a time to fill each child's bucket.
- Have them look directly at you as the other children listen while you tell them why they are special to you.
- Your may want to follow your bucketfilling words with a bucketfilling note that they can take home.

Your eyes may fill with happy tears as you fill each child's bucket and fully realize how much they mean to you, and that's OK. It just means you are speaking from your heart.

It's difficult to really know the impact we have on the lives of others, but helping others to feel good about who they are is a wonderful thing.

- www.bucketfillers101.com.