# Our fifth award!

"Have You Filled a Bucket Today?" has been selected by The Best You Can Be Foundation as one of its top 10 products of the year. Foundation founder and Syndicated Parenting Columnist for United Press International, **Debbie Milam**, adores and highly recommends our book.

Here is part of what she said:

"The words and the illustrations instantly bring a sense of joy and positive energy to the reader.

A wonderful way to enhance selfworth, character, cooperation and global citizenship. This magical book shows us all that when we give we are the ones who actually receive so much."

The Best You Can Be Foundation is dedicated to supporting parents and teachers to inspire children to reach their highest potential.

Through teacher in-service training, parenting resources, children's daily motivational programming and curriculum development, their goal is to create a system where every child can find peace within themselves, develop meaningful relationships, contribute to the greater good in their community, work through stress, and be motivated to reach their highest potential.

### BUCKET CHUCKLES



When my grandson asked me how old I was, I teasingly replied, "I'm not sure."

"Look in your underwear, Grandpa," he advised,

"mine says I'm four to six."

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Bucket Nuggets from Carol McCloud, The Bucket Lady

# **See with real eyes**

Every bucketfilling presentation seems to offer something extra special that fills our buckets and warms our hearts.

This month was no exception, as we were getting ready to begin a school assembly, a teacher told me that there was a blind little second-grader in the audience. His name was Austin. She asked if we might have a bucket filled with hearts and stars so that, as we spoke about the bucket, Austin would follow along by touch. I admired this caring teacher who wanted Austin to really grasp the bucketfilling concept and, fortunately, I did have a bucket and some foamy hearts and stars to give him.

When the teacher introduced me to Austin, I asked him if he would like to help me during our presentation. He gave me a big smile accompanied by an enlthusiastic, "Yes."

Using a cane and assisted by his teacher, Austin walked up to the front of the the group. He smiled as he stood before the assembly of 250 children.

I asked the students if everyone could see Austin. "Yes!," was their resounding response. I then asked them if Austin could see them. "No-o," this time their voices were uncertain and they answered more softly.

"Maybe today you'll find out that Austin can see you better than you can imagine," I said, and followed that by asking them which part of Austin they could see. Hands went up again as they answered, "The outside of Austin, his clothes, his body."

"Which part of you can't Austin see?" I asked. "Our outside, our clothes, our bodies. I congratulated the children and continued my questions. Finally, I asked if anyone in the audience could see the "inside part" of Austin - could they see his thoughts or feelings? Everyone answered, "No."

I explained that Austin was probably the only person in the room who could "see" the most important parts of every person, their inside parts.

"Austin doesn't judge people by their outside appearance as most of us do. He hears our words and how we use them, he senses when we come over to him and knows when we want to help him," I explained.

Austin, a young man blind from birth, sees with real eyes.

Without prompting, a smiling audience gave Austin a huge round of applause.

He returned the ovation with one of his sweet smiles.

To be continued...

## This week's winners

# **Congratulations!**

**Diana Arroyo-Gonalez,** of the Ronald Reagan School in Yuma, AZ is our Bucket Filler of the Week. Congratulations, Diana! You have a book coming your way. Every bucket filler is a winner! Encourage your friends to get their buckets filled every week by signing on for our newsletter at

www.bucketfillers101.com.

Quote of the Week "There's none so blind as they that won't see." Jonathan Swift