

BUCKET FILL-OSOPHY 101™

Weekly words of wisdom to keep your bucket filled

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Making a Difference Buckets of love

I met Cassy Korinek at the Michigan Reading Association conference. I recently received a note describing what has happened since she took a copy of "Have You Filled a Bucket Today?" home to Dexter, Michigan.

I want to tell you that I read the book the first day back from the conference. My kids didn't believe they had an invisible bucket until I told them that it was really their heart! We made a bucket for our classroom and for every classroom in the school. The kids decorated them and delivered them with instructions for bucket filling. My book is traveling around the school to every classroom.

Bucket filling is like magic! My kids are writing "I love the way you are" notes and filling buckets with them. I read the notes to the class every day and great joy and unity comes from it.

Their notes are very sincere and the children are wonderful observers. They are catching on to bucket dipping too. Thank you so much for your delightful message. There are many bucket fillers here at Cornerstone Elementary in Dexter, Michigan.

BUCKET CHUCKLES



A little girl was diligently pounding away on her grandfather's word processor. She told him she was writing a story.

"What's it about?" he asked.

"I don't know," she replied. "I can't read."

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Bucket Nuggets from Carol McCloud, The Bucket Lady

More magic for a grandmother

Bucket filling team member Peggy Johncox's sister, Pam Lewis, submitted the following Bucket Nugget. Thank you, Grandma Pam.



Maddie

My five-year-old granddaughter Madeline refused to have her preschool graduation picture taken. The struggle began when I picked her up from school and explained we were going to get her picture taken. "I don't want my picture. I want to see Aunt Ashley," she screamed and repeated three times. She knew her aunt had just gotten home from college for her Easter break.

As we walked to the car I gave Madeline a list of reasons for the picture. Everyone in her class was getting their picture taken; her parents, grandparents and aunt wanted her picture and it would only take a few minutes. She screamed; she didn't care she just wanted to see her aunt **right now**.

I buckled Madeline and her two-year-old sister Grace in the car. We sat in silence punctuated by outbursts of, "I won't get my picture!"

I had a sudden inspiration. Bribery. I appealed to her love of eating out and offered to take her to any restaurant she wanted after the picture. She screamed at the top of her lungs, "I want to see my auntie!"

My bag of tricks was empty. I looked at Grace who stared wide-eyed from Madeline to me. Empty! The words of the Bucketfilling book we'd read came back to me.

"Madeline," I said, "look at Grace's face. She's sad that you're so upset. You've emptied her bucket and mine too."

"OK grandma, I'll go," Madeline said with enthusiasm.

I looked at her suspiciously. Could a five-year-old change her attitude this fast? In disbelief I asked, "You won't get upset when we get there?"

"No, I want my picture," she said and wiped tears from her eyes with her hand.

I drove as fast as the law would permit to the photographer. A few minutes later with a small white cap on her head, a flowing white gown and a diploma in her hands, Madeline smiled like an angel for the camera.

Thank you Bucketfillers for your magic words. You helped a little girl remember her compassionate heart.



This week's winners

Congratulations!

Jennifer McCrystal, a Reading Coach at Buckhorn Elementary School, Val Rico, Florida, is our Bucket Filler of the Week. Congratulations, Jennifer! 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

"Love people so they know how good they are."—*Author Unknown*