This follow-up lesson was inspired by Maureen Nichols, a fourth-grade teacher at Thornton Creek Elementary in Northville, Michigan. Maureen's students each wrote a letter to fill author Carol McCloud's bucket shortly after her husband died in 2006. This lesson is designed to fill the bucket of someone in class, in school, or in your community who is going through a sad time in their life.

Email us—
info@bucketfillers101.com
Be sure to include:
1. Your name, city and state
2. Name of your school
3. Grade and subject you teach
4. Photo(s) (optional) that illustrate your lesson(s)

Group Bucket Filling

1. Tell your children what happened, i.e. serious illness, death, moving away, etc. Talk about how empty their buckets must be.
2. Ask for ideas on how they can help fill their buckets. Write the ideas on the board.
3. Talk about how their words can fill buckets and ask if they would like help fill their empty buckets.
4. Pass out paper to each student. Write an opening line on the board:
   Dear ______________, I am sorry about ______________
5. Let your children finish the letter with their own words, drawings, poem, or whatever they choose. Have them sign and date the letter.
6. Collect the letters, including one from you, and place them in a bucket or mail them.

NOTES AND REMINDERS
Use this space to evaluate the lesson and/or summarize your preparations for it