



## SPECIAL WORKSHOP EDITION

### Create a Bucketfilling Preschool

by Carol McCloud

In addition to bucket filling, early childhood education is my passion. I believe that early childhood education is one of the most important of all the professions. It is also one of the most undervalued and underpaid.

Nothing gives a parent more peace of mind than knowing that their child is being taught and cared for by a bucketfilling teacher.



Fill a Bucket illustration by Dave Messing

*Here are a dozen simple ideas for creating a bucketfilling preschool:*

- Introduce the concept to staff and children by reading *Have You Filled a Bucket Today?* and *Fill a Bucket*.
- Introduce the concept to parents either in your newsletter or by sending home one of the bucketfilling books in a bucket with a teddy bear so that the family can read together.
- Make a school-wide statement by creating a bulletin board with a bucket and hearts and stars that announces: *We are a Bucketfilling School*.
- Recognize bucket filling in action by adding colorful hearts and stars to your bulletin board listing the ways that buckets are filled in your school.
- Give a bucket filled with symbols or words of appreciation to each member of your staff. Fill their buckets!
- Welcome new children/parents to your school by giving them a Welcoming Bucket filled with school information and small gifts.
- Give a support bucket filled with bucketfilling notes and cards to help a family or individual during a difficult time.
- Use the bucketfilling language regularly to let children know how they are filling your bucket.
- Make it a priority to sincerely fill the buckets of the children who need it the most. Give two or three sincere, specific, **behavior-related** compliments.
- At the end of each week, make it a priority to call one parent whose child has made progress. Praise their child's improvement, sharing specific details that will fill the parent's buckets.
- Be sure to keep your own bucket filled!
- Visit [bucketfillers101.com](http://bucketfillers101.com) to subscribe to our free e-newsletter for more bucketfilling ideas.

*Bucketfilling preschools lead by bucketfilling directors and filled with bucketfilling staff  
create a wonderfully nurturing environment for our children.*

*There is nothing more important to our future.*