

Bucketfilling Ideas to Create Bucketfilling Schools

Have You cilled a Bucket Today

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Taking the concept home

As you continue to create a Bucketfilling School, it's important to give parents an opportunity to understand this simple concept and support your efforts in teaching their children how to be bucket fillers.

Here are some ideas to send the bucketfilling message home:

■ Write a letter that explains the concept (sample below):

Dear Parent(s):

This year we are enthusiastically introducing a new characterdevelopment program called Bucket Filling.

Bucket filling is an easy-to-understand concept: **Everyone carries an** invisible bucket that holds our good thoughts and feelings. When our buckets are full, we feel happy and when our buckets are empty, we feel sad.

Children quickly understand that they can fill buckets when they do and say things that are kind, considerate, caring, and respectful. They also learn that when they are mean, inconsiderate, uncaring, or disrespectful, they dip into buckets and remove those good feelings. Even the youngest child understands that actions and words can either fill a bucket or dip into it. During this school year we are encouraging, reminding, and recognizing everyone's efforts to be bucket

fillers at home, at school, and everywhere they go.

We are excited about this new program and look forward to your support.

If you would like to learn more about bucket filling, visit the Bucket Fillers website,

www.bucketfillers101.com. Bucket Fillers offer a free weekly e-newsletter for parents and teachers.

■ Encourage your students to read *Have You Filled a Bucket Today?* at home

Have the book available in each classroom and give each child an opportunity to take it home to read with their parent(s). Send it along with a traveling notebook, pencil, and a note asking the parent to write a comment about bucket filling. You could also send the book home in a bucket with a furry friend, like Buddy the Bucket Filler, and have the children write about how Buddy helped them fill a bucket. They might want to take a picture of their bucketfilling experience and paste it in the notebook.

■ Have a school-wide Bucketfilling Day or Weekend

Choose a day or a weekend when everyone (staff included) agrees to go home and fill someone's bucket by doing something kind or helpful. Have everyone write a note stating: 1) Whose bucket they filled, 2) What they said or did, 3) How they felt, and 4) How they thought the other person felt. Bring these notes to school, talk about them in class, and post them as a reminder of how much fun bucket filling can be.

Bucket filling can make a positive change in classrooms, schools, and homes when children learn to fill buckets wherever they go.

www.bucketfillers101.com