

BUCKET FILL-OSOPHY 101™

Weekly words of wisdom to keep your bucket filled

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Making a Difference

Book inspires spontaneous hugs

This week we hear from Renee Middleton of Campbell, California:

Thank you so very much for the wonderful book.

We gave a book to my four-year-old twin daughters' pre-kindergarten teacher and she read it to their class.

After she finished reading, the children, all on their own accord, stood up and started hugging each other!

She talked to them about not using the words, *Bucket Dipper*, as name calling and they all agreed!

Thank you again.

BUCKET CHUCKLES

I didn't know if my granddaughter had learned her colors yet, so I decided to test her.

I would point out something and ask what color it was.

She would tell me and was always correct.

It was fun for me, so I continued. At last she headed for the door, saying sagely, "Grandma, I think it's time you started figuring some of these out for yourself."



BUCKET FILLERS, INC.

PO BOX 255

BRIGHTON, MI 48116

PHONE: 810.229.5468

FAX: 810.588.6782

WWW.BUCKETFILLERS101.COM

Designed & edited by Glenny Merillat

Bucket Nuggets from Carol McCloud, *The Bucket Lady*

See with real eyes

PART TWO

Several weeks ago, The Bucket Fillers flew to Sioux Falls, South Dakota to help create the first bucketfilling school in the state. What an exciting and rewarding experience!

There were three hour-long layovers on our journey and during one of these, I sat observing the wonderful variety of people in the busy airport. I noticed two young mothers, each traveling with a small baby. As I looked, I began to see them with my *real* eyes.

They were sitting in different rows and unable to see one another however, as I observed each of them, I noticed that in the span of an hour several people stopped, smiled, and commented to one mother on the beauty of her baby. Over and over I heard, "What a beautiful baby!" And she was. She had rosy cheeks, a bright smile, short curly black hair, long eyelashes and big green eyes. The people's comments filled both mother and daughter's buckets.

However, I did not see anyone stop and comment on the other mother's baby, even though she, too, was seated at the end of a row with many people passing by.

I wondered why there were no compliments for her child and looked more closely. The babies were approximately the same age. They were both being good and each had a sweet smile. Of course there were some physical differences. The second baby was thinner and

looked slightly frail. Her cheeks were not as rosy or full and she had sparse wisps of fine, light brown hair. It was apparent that her clothes had not cost as much as the first baby's.

I went over to chat with this baby's mother and told her, sincerely, that she had a beautiful baby and commented about how good she was being. I asked her baby's name and age.

As we talked, she told me that her husband is serving his country overseas and she was on her way to visit her grandmother in Iowa. Grandma was going to meet her great

granddaughter. I offered to get her something to eat or drink since she seemed to be have a lot of bags and baby things to look after. She smiled and said, "No, thank you, I'm fine, but thanks for coming over to see my baby girl."

The attention paid to one child and not the other caused me to wonder how early in life, without even realizing it, we begin to teach children the importance of physical beauty. Do we inadvertently teach them that some children are prettier, more attractive and therefore "better" than others? Or do we see with our real eyes/hearts?

Bucketfillers always look for opportunities to fill buckets. It's second nature for them to take the time to notice people. They engage them in conversation or give them a quick complement. Their words are always sincere because they see with their real eyes.

That little cutie made my day and filled my bucket.

This week's winners

Congratulations!



Debbie Makay, of Monterey Elementary School in Roanoke, Virginia is our Bucket Filler of the Week. Congratulations, Debbie! 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

"Vision is the art of seeing the invisible."

Jonathan Swift

