



BUCKET FILL-OSOPHY 101™

Weekly Words of Wisdom to Keep Your Bucket Filled

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Making a Difference



Late last year we received an email from Colleen Williams, an enthusiastic bucket filling Mom who lives in Australia.

“My name is Colleen, and I am one lucky bucketfilling parent. My beautiful children attend Parkerville Primary School, one of the most wonderful Primary Schools in Perth, Western Australia.

Together with many other like-minded parents we are transforming our wonderful community school into a loving, shining example of what bucketfilling can do.

Our head bucketfiller is Caroline, one of our wonderful, tireless teachers. She is our resident kindergarten teacher and a wonderful lady, who takes our beautiful little people and shows them the joys of starting the big wide world of school and the fun and joy of learning. She is a perfect bucketfiller.

We want to be the change we want to see in our world, so bucket filling is the perfect way to help us achieve that. We use your ideas to help us grow and inspire our community through our school. We have already seen amazing changes and more smiles in our school.

Another one of our wonderful bucketfillers is Vanessa. I am lucky enough to call her a personal friend and she definitely practices what she preaches.

Vanessa has the wonderful ability to think of so many things to help bring joy to our very special Bucketfilling Committee. Our first official meeting was simply wonderful. Scented candles, love heart name plates, chocolates and homemade muffins greeted us when we all walked in for our first meeting!! MAGIC!!”

Live and Learn

by Carol McCloud

What have you learned that you did not know five years ago? You’ve probably learned a number of important things because learning is a long-life journey.

Five years ago, I was finishing our first book, *Have You Filled a Bucket Today?* While I am very pleased with the success and the results achieved through this book, I would change a few things if I were writing or revising it today.

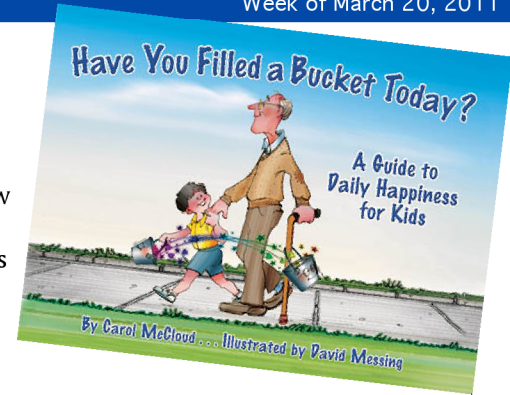
First, I would avoid using the noun, “bucket dipper” and instead use the verb, “bucket dipping” making it clear that bucket dipping is an action or a behavior, not a permanent label. Both children and adults label people negatively. How many times have you heard, “he’s a jerk,” “she’s an idiot,” or “they’re losers”? Bucket dipping is an action, and since we all dip once in a while, it’s unfair to permanently label one person as a “dipper” or even as a “bully”. That’s dipping too! Saying “he is being a dipper” is better and less permanent than “he’s a bucket dipper”.

Second, I would include the fact that it is possible to fill and dip into your own bucket. This is an important concept for children (and adults) to understand. I believe both children and adults need to learn how it’s possible to fill and dip into their own buckets. While this is a fairly big concept for young children, when explained correctly, they do get it.

Third, I would try to find a way to explain the “lid” in order to help children understand that when other people dip, their buckets are usually not full. This understanding will help them protect their buckets. There were several reasons why I did not include the “lid” in *Have You Filled a Bucket Today?* I felt the concept was too complex for young children to grasp. I wanted to keep the focus of the book on bucket filling and I did not want to minimize the pain that bucket dipping causes or make it sound as though it’s something a child can easily control. It’s one thing to teach children that not everyone gets invited to a party; it’s a totally different thing to help children who have been affected by physical or sexual abuse.

Perhaps one day I will revisit these ideas. For now, I invite you to incorporate these concepts into your reading and your lessons.

It’s called living, learning, *and teaching*.



Congratulations Kristin!

Kristin Wegner, of New Holstein, Wisconsin, is our bucket filler of the week. You have a book coming your way. Every bucket filler is a winner. Encourage your friends to get their buckets filled by subscribing to our free e-newsletter at www.bucketfillers101.com

Bucket Chuckles

One day a woman called her tech support line because her printer would print every color but yellow. The technician was baffled because it takes yellow to print green and her green looked fine. Nothing he tried worked. He asked his coworkers. Nothing. After two hours, the technician was ready to have her bring her printer in when the customer asked, “Should I try printing on a piece of white paper instead of this yellow paper?”

Words of Wisdom

Remember, if you ever need a helping hand, you’ll find one at the end of your arm ... As you grow older you will discover that you have two hands. One for helping yourself, the other for helping others. — Audrey Hepburn