



Bucket Fillers



Sharing Bucketfilling Ideas
Bucket Lesson #23

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Bucketfilling Writing Competition

We'd like to thank Kasha Smith of Yew Chung International School (YCIS) in Beijing, China for sharing this creative writing idea with our readers.

Students at YCIS have been reading our books for several years. Last spring, during their March Book Week, we were invited to China to talk to YCIS students and staff about the meaning and benefits of bucket filling. While we were there, they held a creative writing competition to promote both writing and bucket filling. We had the pleasure of being part of the judging committee for the competition.

The voluntary competition consisted of three different creative writing categories. The students were instructed to put their name and class on each entry and submit by March 2, 2015. No late entries were accepted. Each student could enter one work in one or more of the three following categories (see one of the student entries shown here):

1. Fiction. Write an imaginary story about a kind person who helps others by filling their buckets.

2. Nonfiction. Research a person who is well known for their kindness or generosity. The person may be a historical figure or it can be a person from present-day. Display this information on a poster.

3. Poetry. Write a poem about being kind or kindness. Any form of poetry is acceptable. (E.g. shape poem, acrostic, cinquain, haiku, etc.)

The competition was judged in combined grades (in US grading):

- Kindergarten and Grade 1
- Grades 2 and 3
- Grades 4 and 5



We were delighted and excited as we read several dozen original and imaginative entries. There was a tie in one category/grade which resulted in a total of ten winning students. Each winner read or explained their entry at a school-wide assembly where they were awarded a signed copy of the Chinese edition of *Have You Filled a Bucket Today?*

Congratulations to Yew Chung International School for expanding the bucketfilling concept into a project that involved thought, research, imagination, creativity and writing.

For even more ideas, be sure to check out our past *Bucket Lessons* on our [website!](#)

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