

POEMS

You Matter to the Little Ones

There is no job more important than yours.
You are the keepers of the future;
You hold the smallest, most vulnerable hands.
Into your care, you are trusted
to nurture and care for the young –
And for all of your everyday triumphs,
your talents and skills go unsung.



You wipe tears from the eyes of the injured.
You rock babies brand new in your arms.
You encourage the shy and unsure child.
You make sure they are all kept from harm.
You foster the bonds of friendships,
letting no child go away mad.
You respect and honor young emotions.
You give hugs to the scared and the sad.



You have more impact than does a professor;
A child's mind is molded by four.
So whatever you lay on the table
is whatever that child will explore.
Give each child the tools for adventure,
Let them be artists and writers and more;
Let them fly on the wind
and dance on the stars
and build castles of sand on the shore.



It is true that you don't make much money
and you don't get a great deal of praise,
But when one small child says "I love you,"
you're reminded how much this job pays.



- Author Unknown

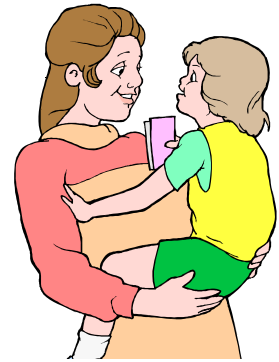
To the One Who Cares for My Child...

I hope you never fail to know
We're grateful as can be,
You're a most important person
To this little one and me.

You take my place when I'm not there
And yet you've never tried,
To take my place in such a way
That I am pushed aside.

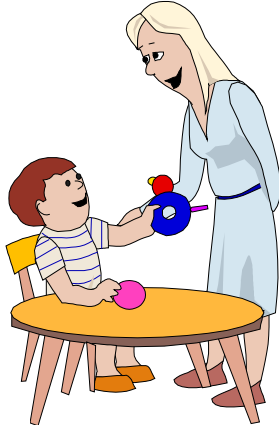
You always are included
Every time I kneel in prayer,
Dear one who's caring for my child
When I cannot be there.

- Helen Bush



One hundred years from now - it will not matter what kind of car I drove... what kind of house I lived in... or how big my bank account was. But the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child.

POEMS



Think Again...

So, you think that what you do in the
classroom doesn't really matter...
That you are "just" teaching young children?
Well, think again!

A child is a person
who is going to carry on what *you* have started.
And when you are gone,
attend to those very things you feel are important.
You may adopt all of the policies and laws you please –
but if and how they are carried out,
Depend on him.

He will assume control of your cities, states, and schools.
Someday it will be his turn, and he will take over
your churches, government, and corporations.

The fate of humanity is in his hands...
Or is it really in *yours*?

POEMS



If a child smiled today because of you -
THANK YOU!

If a child learned today because of you -
THANK YOU!

If a child gained self-esteem today because of you -
THANK YOU!

If a child felt loved today because of you -
THANK YOU!

If a child felt warm and safe today because of you -
THANK YOU!

If a child laughed today because of you -
THANK YOU!

*NO ONE WILL EVER KNOW HOW MUCH YOU DO FOR CHILDREN
EACH DAY. ONE DAY THAT CHILD WHOM YOU LOVED TODAY
WILL BE GROWN AND WILL CARRY A PIECE OF YOU WITH HIM
ALWAYS.*

Thank you!!!

Forever in Your Heart...



Although you're not their mother
You care for them each day.
You cuddle, sing and read to them
And watch them as they play.

You see each new accomplishment
You help them grow and learn.
You understand their language,
You listen with concern.

They come to you for comfort
And you kiss away their tears.
They proudly show their work to you
You give the loudest cheers!

No, you're not their mothers,
But your role is also strong.
You nurture them and keep them safe
Though maybe not for long.

You know that the time will come
When you will have to part
But you know each child you've loved
Is forever in your heart.