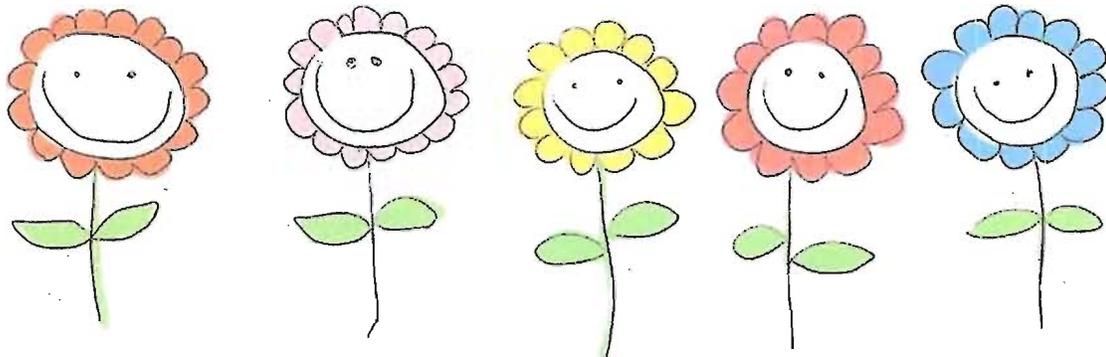


- ❖ When my principal asked me what my main teaching goal was with the Young Fives I easily replied: *“To build their self-esteem. I want them to feel good about themselves. I want to make learning fun so that they love school and want to come.”*
- ❖ I truly believe that if a child loves themselves and enjoys coming to school you can teach them anything!
- ❖ You may think that a child doesn’t have a care in the world, not true!
- ❖ I like the quote: *“ A child doesn’t care how much you know, until he knows how much you care!”*
- ❖ We owe it to our students to not only care about them, but to make sure that they KNOW that we do.
- ❖ I give a little “Smilie Assessment” so that I know what my students’ emotions are.
- ❖ Surprisingly, and sadly, not all my students color happy faces. It’s especially alarming when they don’t think their family loves them, or they think that they are dumb etc.
- ❖ The assessment gives me an opportunity to talk with them one-on-one and give some extra TLC at school as well as give the parents a “heads up.” Things may only be temporary because of something happening at home.
- ❖ I also give them ample opportunity to voice their feelings and opinions in an appropriate manner.
- ❖ I greet them at the door with a positive attitude and a *“We’re going to have so much fun today!”* comment.

- ❖ I give them a “high five” and a compliment as they walk through my door. “Nice shirt!” “Cute shoes!” “I like your pony tails today!” It only takes a moment to build a child’s self-confidence and it’s a great way to start the day!
- ❖ Each week I give out a certificate that goes with the theme. My students sign their name on it. It’s not only taking ownership in the fact that they’ve done a good job, but it’s also practicing their name in a fun way.
- ❖ A certificate is something they can bring home and display on the fridge or share with grama and grampa. “Paper bragging”.
- ❖ I had one mom who bought her son a scrapbook, and each time he brought one home he glued it in his “Pride Book”. Another mom simply had her daughter glue them all in a notebook that she decorated with stickers.
- ❖ There is a certificate included in each themed unit, but I also wanted to give people an opportunity to buy just the certificates to help build children’s self-esteem!
- ❖ If you do purchase them this way, they are only \$1.99 for 100 certificates! That’s around 2 pennies each!
- ❖ All the proceeds from this Big Book go to several organizations in the prevention of suicide in the memory of my godson Daniel Iselin.
- ❖ He was a wonderfully gifted artist and the son of my twin sister Kathie.
- ❖ To help her through her grief she wrote a book called *Beyond the Darkness*. The lovely poem is taken from that book.
- ❖ I have several helpful links if you are interested in clicking.
- ❖ Have you praised the important people in your life today?



“Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess,
for He who promised is faithful.”
Hebrews 10:23 NIV

Please

by Kathie Iselin ©

When I'm feeling overwhelmed and empty inside...
Please Lord, be a haven where I can hide.
When the pain and sorrow runs too deep...
Please hold me in Your Arms so I can sleep.
When the tears flow freely so I can't see...
Please show me that You're there for me.
When I'm lost in a tunnel that's dark and long...
Please light my way and make me strong.
As I stumble and fall along the way...
Please give me hope for a brighter day.
And when things go wrong and I despair...
Please lift the burdens I can't bear.

“Your way is perfect, Lord, and Your word is correct.
You are a shield for those who run to You for help.
You alone are God! Only You are a mighty rock.
You give me strength and guide me right.”
Psalm 18:30-32 CEV