



Children are:

Amazing.....acknowledge them
Believable.....trust them
Childlike.....allow them
Divine.....honor them
Energetic.....nourish them
Fallible.....embrace them
Gifts.....treasure them
Here now.....be with them
Innocent.....delight with them
Joyful.....appreciate them
Kindhearted.....learn from them
Loveable.....cherish them
Magical.....fly with them
Noble.....esteem them
Open minded.....respect them
Precious.....value them
Questioners.....encourage them
Resourceful.....support them
Spontaneous.....enjoy them
Talented.....believe in them
Unique.....affirm them
Vulnerable.....protect them
Whole.....recognize them
Xtraspecial.....celebrate them
Yearning.....notice them
Zany.....laugh with them

A Box of Crayons

While walking in a toy store
the day before today,
I overheard a crayon box
with many things to say.

"I don't like red!" said yellow.
And green said, "Nor do I!"
And no one here likes orange,
but no one knows quite why."

"We are a box of crayons
that really doesn't get along,"
said blue to all the others
"something here is wrong!"

Well, I bought that box of crayons
and took it home with me
and laid out all the crayons
so the crayons could all see.

They watched me as I colored
with red and blue and green
and black and white and orange
and every color in between.

They watched as green
became the grass
and blue became the sky.
The yellow sun was shining bright
on white clouds drifting by.

Colors changing as they touched,
becoming something new.
They watched me as I colored.
They watched till I was through.

And when I'd finally finished,
I began to walk away.
And as I did the crayon box
had something more to say...

"I do like red!" said the yellow
and green said, "So do I!"
"And blue you are terrific
so high up in the sky."

"We are a box of crayons
each of us unique,
but when we get together
the picture is complete."

NOW IF WE COULD JUST LEARN
FROM THIS BOX OF CRAYONS
THIS WORLD WOULD BE A BETTER PLACE.

Shane DeRolf

Kids Who Are Different

Here's to kids who are different,
Kids who don't always get A's,
Kids who have ears
Twice the size of their peers
And noses that go on for days.

Here's to kids who are different,
Kids they call crazy or dumb,
Kids who don't fit,
With the gut and the grit,
Who dance to a different drum.

Here's to the kids who are different,
Kids with a mischievous streak.
For when they have grown,
As history has shown,
It's their difference that makes them unique



CHILDREN ARE LIKE KITES...

You spend years trying to get them off the ground.

You run with them until you are both breathless.

They crash ... they hit the roof ...

you patch, comfort and assure them that someday they will fly.

Finally, they are airborne.

They need more string, and you keep letting it out.

They tug, and with each twist of the twine,
there is sadness that goes with joy.

The kite becomes more distant,
and you know it won't be long
before that beautiful creature will snap
the lifeline that binds you together
and will soar as meant to soar
... free and alone.

Only then do you know that you have done your job.

~~ Author Unknown ~~



Unity

I dreamed I stood in a studio
and watched two sculptors there.

The clay they used
was a young child's mind
and they fashioned it with care.

One was a teacher
and the tools she used
were books and music and art.

One was a parent
with a guiding hand
and a gentle, loving heart.

And when at last
their work was done,
they were proud of what they had wrought.
For the things they had worked
into the child
could never be sold or bought.

And each agreed
she would have failed
if she had worked alone
for behind the parent
stood the school
and behind the teacher
stood the home.

This poem was written/submitted by Ray A. Lingenfelter



Children Learn What They Live
By Dorothy Law Nolte

*If children live with criticism,
They learn to condemn.
If children live with hostility,
They learn to fight.
If children live with ridicule,
They learn to be shy.
If children live with shame,
They learn to feel guilty.
If children live with encouragement,
They learn confidence.
If children live with tolerance,
They learn to be patient.
If children live with praise
They learn to appreciate.
If children live with acceptance,
They learn to love.
If children live with approval,*

*They learn to like themselves.
If children live with honesty,
They learn truthfulness.
If children live with security,
They learn to have faith in themselves and others.
If children live with friendliness,
They learn the world is a nice place in which to live.*

