

Kid Quotes

...Volume I



A SeaNotes Series...

**Collected by
Deborah Morse Scala**

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First Edition

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Dedicated ...

*...to all the children
I was fortunate to have
in my classroom
through the years.*

*...to my Kindergarten aides,
Patty D'Amico (Mrs. D)
Ellen McNeil (Mrs. M)
Michelle Tobias (Mrs. T)
who helped me record these amazing quips*

*...to Joseph Arthur Scala
my "grocery cart cowboy," husband,
and the biggest kid I know*

“Learning is what you do
when you are not sleeping...”

Becky, Age 5

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Introduction

Seeing the world through the eyes of young children has been a great blessing. Their words reveal unbelievably magical insights that we have lost on our own journey to the land of "grown ups".

Children absorb oceans of information in their invisible fishing nets by hands-on experience and unique interpretation. Be it running through a field, on a beach or wading in streams, kids perceive life through their senses...through the very air they breathe. Without hesitation they try out their new knowledge to see if it "fits" right. If not, they revise and edit in the blink of an eye. It is pure magic!

Teaching young children has afforded me the opportunity to compile this unique collection of "Kid Quotes". I enjoyed sending home a newsletter to my kindergarten parents to keep them current with classroom events. The most read and cherished portion was the collection of amusing quotes I heard from my students during the week.

I am delighted to share these sweet pieces of life from a kid's point of view. I hope you enjoy this small glimpse into their world. A place of innocence, trust and endlessly rich possibilities...

do you remember?



- D. M. S.

Language Arts



- ♡ To review the initial “D” sound, we played a game of **Freeze**. I say a word beginning with the letter **Dd** and the kids silently act it out in actions and motion. After several seconds, I yell “**FREEZE!**”, and the children stop in mid-position. We enacted *dentist*, *dancers*, *doctors*, *dogs* and *dinosaur*.

I ran out of ideas, so the children volunteered *dolphin*, *diver* and finally, *dad*.

After *dad*, I shouted “**FREEZE!**” - and found one child frozen with a big smile on his face...and his finger up his nose!

♡ Practicing opposites, I asked the class what the opposite of empty was. Chris matter of factly replied,

“Not empty.”

♡ After 13 weeks of school, we were half way through the alphabet. Each week the children had been exposed to the terminology of upper-case and lower-case letters. I felt that my students understood it now. I explained that today we would learn how to write the upper-case and lower-case **Nn**. Mickey asked,

“What about the middle case n?”

♡ During a lesson on opposites, I had the children physically show me with their bodies and body movement the opposite of happy, over, stand, high, sit, run, etc. They were under and over and all around the room. In exasperation, one child declared,

“What are you trying to do...kill us?”

♡ While composing a thank you note, the children reviewed and identified the correct use of punctuation marks. I pointed to a period and asked,

“Does anyone know what this punctuation mark is called?”

Alex volunteered,

“Yes, it is a pyramid.”

Humor / Educational / Lower Elementary

In this book, you will see through the eyes of kindergartners as they "try out their new knowledge to see if it 'fits' right ...and edit in the blink of an eye."

Read these cute quips from the children of Deb Scala's classrooms and discover how kindergartners perceive their world ... much to the awe and delight of the adults around them!

Deborah Morse Scala has been an early childhood educator for over twenty years. She has been the recipient of several in-district mini grants, an educational science grant from Pfizer Corporation and a Geraldine R Dodge Teacher Fellowship Grant. She has been a member of NJEA and NEA and has held executive office in both NJAKE (NJ Association of Kindergarten Educators) and Alpha Delta Kappa sorority for women educators.

Several of her original ideas have been published in **Mailbox** magazine. She has also collaborated with musician Cheryl Terhune Cronk to create activity books with original songs for early childhood teachers to use in the classroom. They are ***Classroom Management...With Music*** and ***Character Education...With Music***.

Ms. Scala has taught grades K—5 , and says her greatest joy came from teaching kindergarten for the Parsippany-Troy Hill School District in Parsippany, NJ.

The author lives in a small Victorian hamlet in northern New Jersey with her husband, Joseph, twin daughters and two dogs.



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