

## Heart of a Teacher

The CHILD arrives like a mystery box...  
With puzzle pieces inside  
Some of the pieces are broken or missing...  
And others just seem to hide  
But the heart of a teacher can sort them out..  
And help the child to see  
The potential for greatness he has within  
A picture of what he can be.  
Her goal isn't just to teach knowledge..  
By filling the box with more parts  
It's putting the pieces together  
To create a work of art.  
The process is painfully slow at times.  
Some need more help than others.  
Each child is a work in progress,  
With assorted shapes and colors.

First she creates a classroom..  
Where the child can feel safe in school  
Where he never feels threatened or afraid to try..  
And kindness is always the rule.  
She knows that a child  
Can achieve much more  
When he feels secure inside  
When he's valued and loved  
And believes in himself...  
And he has a sense of pride.  
She models and teaches good character..  
And respect for one another,  
How to focus on strengths... not weaknesses...  
And how to encourage each other.  
She gives the child the freedom he needs...  
To make choices on his own  
So he learns to become more responsible..  
And is able to stand alone.  
He's taught to be strong and think of himself  
As his soul and spirit heal  
And the puzzle that's taking shape inside...  
Has a much more positive feel.  
The child discovers the joy that comes  
From learning something new...  
And his vision grows as he begins  
To see all the things that he can do.

A picture is formed as more pieces fit...  
An image of the child within  
With greater strength and confidence..  
And a belief that he can win!  
All because a hero was there...  
In the HEART of a teacher who cared  
Enabling the child to become much more...  
Than he ever imagined or dared.  
A teacher with a HEART for her children...  
Knows what teaching is all about  
She may not have all the answers...  
But on this...she has no doubt.  
When asked which subjects she loved to teach,  
She answered this way and smiled....  
"It's not the subjects that matter....  
It's all about teaching the CHILD"

