“There is no single effort more radical in its potential for saving the world than a transformation of the way we raise our children.” - Marianne Williamson

“This is the true joy of life, the being used up for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one.” - George Bernard Shaw

“Experience is not the best teacher, it is the only teacher.” Bev Bos

“Imagination is more important than knowledge.” - Albert Einstein

"A child does not have to be motivated to learn; in fact, learning cannot be stopped. A child will focus on the world around him and long to understand it. He will want to know why things are the way they are. He won’t have to be told to be curious; he will just be curious. He has no desire to be ignorant; rather he wants to know everything." - Valerie Fitzenreiter

"It was at home I learned the little I know. Schools always appeared to me like a prison, and never could I make up my mind to stay there, not even for four hours a day, when the sunshine was inviting, the sea smooth, and when it was joy to run about the cliffs in the free air, or to paddle in the water." - Claude Monet

"Teach children what to think and you limit them to your ideas. Teach children how to think and their ideas are unlimited." - Sandra Parks

"Misbehavior in children is an attempt to communicate, when all else has failed. Children have a drive to love other people and to be a contribution to the people around them. It is time for all children to be recognized as the magnificent people they are, and accorded the dignity and respect that is due every human being. We must establish a new way of seeing children." - The Kids' Project (Ann Fisher, Randal Schwartz, and Rick Lahrson)

"A happy childhood can't be cured. Mine will hang around my neck like a rainbow, that's all, instead of a noose." - Queenie, in [*Queenie*](http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ASIN/0877950105/ncp-20) (1973) by Hortense Calisher

“The wildest colts make the best horses.” - Plutarch

"Learning is the human activity that least needs manipulation by others. Most learning is not the result of instruction. It is rather the result of unhampered participation in a meaningful activity." -Ivan Illich

"Love the children extravagantly, with all your heart!" -Pygmy proverb

"When we make a child afraid, we stop learning dead in its tracks." -John Holt

"Meeting a child's dependency needs is the key to helping that child achieve independence. And children outgrow these needs according to their own unique timetable." - Elizabeth Baldwin

"It is the nature of the child to be dependent, and it is the nature of dependence to be outgrown. Begrudging dependency because it is not independence is like begrudging winter because it is not yet spring. Dependency blossoms into independence in its own time." - Peggy O'Mara, Mothering Magazine

"The greatest respect is owed to a child." – Juvenal 1st - 2nd century C.E.

"I would like to know why it is that we have disregarded all children's significantly spontaneous and comprehensive curiosity... Nothing seems to be more prominent about human life than its wanting to understand all and put everything together." - R. Buckminster Fuller

"Babies need tenderness. They do not grow well without it. It is the stuff that makes us human." - James Kimmel

"Teach your scholar to observe the phenomena of nature; you will soon rouse his curiosity, but if you would have it grow, do not be in too great a hurry to satisfy this curiosity. Put the problems before him and let him solve them himself. Let him know nothing because you have told him, but because he has learnt it for himself. Let him not be taught science, let him discover it. If ever you substitute authority for reason he will cease to reason; he will be a mere plaything of other people's thoughts." - Jean-Jacques Rousseau

"The only time my education was interrupted was when I was in school." - George Bernard Shaw

"We worry about what a child will become tomorrow, yet we forget that he is someone today." - Stacia Tauscher

"A child whose life is full of the threat and fear of punishment is locked into babyhood. There is no way for him to grow up, to learn to take responsibility for his life and acts. Most important of all, we should not assume that having to yield to the threat of our superior force is good for the child's character. It is never good for anyone's character." - John Holt

"You are troubled at seeing him spend his early years in doing nothing. What! Is it nothing to be happy? Is it nothing to skip, play, and run around all day long? Never in his life will he be so busy as now." - Jean-Jacques Rousseau,

“Little children love the world. That is why they are so good at learning about it. For it is love, not tricks and techniques of thought, that lies at the heart of all true learning. Can we bring ourselves to let children learn and grow through that love?" - John Holt,

"The best-kept secret in child psychology is that children who were never spanked are among the best behaved." - Murray Straus, Ph.D.

"We must learn to accept the fact that during their developmental years children cannot be expected to exhibit adult behavior." - Robert Mendelsohn, M.D.

"A misbehaving child is a discouraged child." – Jane Nelson

“Science is just beginning to confirm what God has designed and mothers have known all along – that something good happens when babies and mothers share sleep.” – Martha Sears.

“What children become under one set of circumstances does not tell us very much about what they might have become under another.” – John Holt

“Children need love most when they appear to deserve it least.” – Pam Leo

“We must become the people we want our children to be.” – Joseph Chilton Pearce

“There are two lasting bequests we can give our children: One is roots; the other is wings.” - Hodding Carter

“I can only bring peace to my children when I possess it myself.” – Katrina Kenison

“When we spoil something, we deny it the conditions it requires… The real spoiling of children is not in the indulging of demands or the giving of gifts, but in the ignoring of their genuine needs.” -Gordon Neufeld

“Children perceive themselves through the lens of others’ regard.” Ross Thompson

"Many of the things we need can wait. The child cannot. Right now is the time his bones are being formed, his blood is being made, and his senses are being developed. To him we cannot answer 'Tomorrow,' his name is today." - Gabriela Mistral

“Every time we teach a child something, we keep him from inventing it himself. That which we allow him to discover by himself will remain with him.” - Jean Piaget