



READING SUGGESTIONS FOR NAMING CEREMONIES

SPEECH

-Dorothy Law Nolte, Ph.D

"If children live with hostility, they learn to fight./If children live with ridicule, they learn to be shy./If children live with tolerance, they learn to be patient./If children live with encouragement, they learn confidence./If children live with praise, they learn to appreciate./If children live with fairness, they learn justice./If children live with security, they learn faith./If children live with approval, they learn to like themselves./If children live with acceptance, and friendship, they learn to find love in the world."

DEAR CHILD....

-Unknown

I wish you the gift of empathy – the ability to stand in another’s shoes and know their needs.
I wish you kindness – given as a gift and now as an obligation.
I wish you perception – to see without bigotry or self-esteem.
I wish you courage in all the hard times you will meet – a heart and mind that learns from failure – and finds hope even at the edges of despair.
I wish that you become a person that shines with kindness and intelligence and love of life.
I wish you an exploratory mind and respect for the beliefs of others.
I wish you the love that changes and grows with every year that passes.

Winnie the Pooh Quotes

Sometimes the smallest things take up the most room in your heart

If you live to be a hundred, I hope to be a hundred minus one day, so I never have to live a day without you

“what if I fall?” oh but my darling, what if you fly?

Be bold enough to use your voice, brave enough to listen to your heart, and strong enough to live the life you’ve always imagined

Dr Seuss Quote

Why fit in when you were born to stand out?

IF

-Unknown

If children live with criticism, they learn to condemn
If children live with hostility, they learn how 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 tolerance, they learn to be patient
If children live with encouragement, they learn to have confidence
If children live with praise, they learn to appreciate
If children live with fairness, they learn justice
If children live with security, they learn to have faith
If children live with approval, they learn to like themselves
If children live with love around them, they learn to give love to the world.

BABY'S NAMING DAY

-Unknown

...bright as a flower
Lovely child we welcome you
Into our world, into our lives
On this your special naming day.

...happy little spirit.
Smiling child we wish you joy
and health and strength and love and peace
On this your special naming day.

...lively little girl/boy
Perfect child we send you our blessings
For a long and happy life, energy and freedom
On this your special naming day.

...our love goes out to you precious child with eyes so wide
Waving arms and dancing feet,
And busy hands which hold so tight
On this your special naming day.

PARENT'S LOVE

-Unknown

A Parent's love is something, that no one can explain
It is made of deep devotion, and is sacrifice and pain
It is endless and unselfish, and enduring, come what may
For nothing can destroy it, or take that love away
It is patient and forgiving, when all others are forsaking
And it never fails or falters, even though the heart is breaking
It believes beyond believing, when the world around condemns
And it glows with all the beauty of the rarest, brightest gems
It is far beyond defining, it defies all explanation
And it still remains a secret, like the mysteries of creation
A many splendored miracle, man cannot understand
And special wondrous evidence, of life's tender guiding hand

WHY GOD MADE LITTLE BOYS

-Unknown

God made the world out of His dreams
Of magic mountains, oceans and streams,
Prairies and plans and wooded land,
Then paused and thought "I need someone to stand
On top of mountains, to conquer the seas,
Explore the plains and climb the trees.

Someone to start out small and to grow,
Sturdy, strong as a tree..." And so,
He created boys, full of spirit and fun,
To explore and conquer, to romp and run.
With dirty faces and banged up chins,
With courageous hearts and boyish grins.
When He had completed the task He'd begun
He surely said "A job well done".

NAMING POEM FOR BOYS

-Unknown

Your Name
You got it from your Father
It was all he had to give
So it's yours to cherish
As long as you may live

If you lose the watch he gave you
It can always be replaced
But a tarnish on your name, Son
Can never be erased.

It was clean the day you took it
And a worthy name to bear
When he got it from his father
There was no dishonour there

So make sure you guard it wisely
After all is said and done
You'll be glad the name is spotless
When you give it to your Son.

A CHILD'S BLESSING

-Unknown

may your life be blessed
with joy and love
may angels guide you
from above

may your heart be kind
your spirit strong
to see the good
and right some wrong

may the world
be a better place
because you came
and shared some space

I WISH FOR YOU ONE THING AND THAT IS LOVE

-William Byrd

I wish for you one thing, and that is love
Love for life, and pure, unfettered joy
At being here on this vivid earth.

May pleasure come from giving pleasure,
And love that streams out of your burning heart
Light the darkened world and make it bloom.

I wish you to be loved both well and long
By all those whom you love; that these be many,
Among whom, not least, might be yourself.

May you love the beautiful and good,
And always act with honesty and justice,
Being what you would that others be.

But most of all, I wish for you a love
Into which your love might plunge and drown,
An ocean in which you might live and breathe.

EXTRACT FROM "OH THE PLACES YOU'LL GO"

-Dr Seuss

Congratulations!
Today is your day.
You're off to Great Places!
You're off and away!

You have brains in your head.
You have feet in your shoes.
You can steer yourself
any direction you choose.

You're on your own. And you know what you know.
And YOU are the one who'll decide where to go.
You'll look up and down streets. Look 'em over with care.
About some you will say, "I don't choose to go there."

With your head full of brains and your shoes full of feet,
you're too smart to go down any not-so-good street.
And you may not find any
you'll want to go down.

In that case, of course,
you'll head straight out of town.
It's opener there
in the wide open air.

Out there things can happen
and frequently do
to people as brainy
and footsy as you.

And when things start to happen,
don't worry. Don't stew.
Just go right along.
You'll start happening too.

OH! THE PLACES YOU'LL GO!

You'll get mixed up, of course,
as you already know.
You'll get mixed up
with many strange birds as you go.

So be sure when you step.
Step with care and great tact
and remember that Life's
a Great Balancing Act.

Just never forget to be dexterous and deft.
And never mix up your right foot with your left.

And will you succeed?
Yes! You will, indeed!
(98 and 3/4 percent guaranteed.)

KID, YOU'LL MOVE MOUNTAINS!

So...
be your name Buxbaum or Bixby or Bray
or Mordecai Ali Van Allen O'Shea,
You're off to Great Places!
Today is your day!
Your mountain is waiting.
So ... get on your way!

LOVE YOU MORE

-James Carter

Do I love you
to the moon and back?
No I love you
more than that

I love you to the desert sands
the mountains, stars
the planets and
I love you to the deepest sea
and deeper still
through history

Before beyond I love you then
I love you now
I'll love you when
The sun's gone out
the moon's gone home
and all the stars are fully grown

When I no longer say these words
I'll give them to the wind, the birds
so that they will still be heard
I love you

A MOTHERS WISH

-Unknown

I hope my child looks back on today
And sees a parent who had time to play
There will be years for cleaning and cooking
But children grow up when you're not looking
So settle down, cobwebs, dust, go to sleep
I'm cuddling my baby, and babies don't keep

POEM

-Bob Dylan

May God bless and keep you always,
May your wishes all come true,
May you always do for others
And let others do for you.

May you build a ladder to the stars
And climb on every rung,
May you stay forever young,
Forever young, forever young,
May you stay forever young.

May you grow up to be righteous,
May you grow up to be true,
May you always know the truth
And see the lights surrounding you.

May you always be courageous,
Stand upright and be strong,
May you stay forever young,
Forever young, forever young,
May you stay forever young.

May your hands always be busy,
May your feet always be swift,
May you have a strong foundation
When the winds of changes shift.

May your heart always be joyful,
May your song always be sung,
May you stay forever young,
Forever young, forever young,
May you stay forever young.

BABY BOY

-Unknown

A gift of love
An absolute joy.
Brings you this
Beautiful baby boy.

Two people as one
Created a son.
To cherish
For evermore.

Take care of this boy
He's precious and new
And has been left in the
Care and protection of you.

SMALL AND SWEET

-Shauna Scott

My Little Girl so small and sweet,
Those tiny hands and tiny feet.
Everyday I watch you grow,
You teach me everything I know.

Such a joy to be around,
Every smile and every sound.
Number one you will stay,
Each and every single day.

You changed my life in such good ways,
'Thank You' is all that I can say.
I love to watch you sleep at night,
Cuddled warm and wrapped up tight.

As I blink the time it flies,
It breaks my heart to see you cry.
I gave you life, so proud to say,
I'll love you more with every day.

My little Girl so small and sweet,
For you my heart, It beats and beats.

BRAND NEW LITTLE SON/DAUGHTER

-Unknown

He's/She's your brand new little son/daughter,
So enchanted sweet and smart.
With a coo, he'll/she'll have you smiling,
With a laugh, he'll/she'll own your heart.

It's a time for hugs and kisses,
Reassurance when he/she cries.
It's a time for making moments
Full of love and lullabies.

For these golden days of childhood
Come and go so very fast –
Hold him/her tight and love him/her dearly
Make these precious moments last.

MY LITTLE GIRL

-Meghann E. Matri

Ten tiny fingers,
Ten tiny toes,
Two little eyes,
And one little nose.

A beautiful smile
Curly blonde hair
A perfect angel
Just standing there

A blank slate
For me to mould
A little girl
For me to hold

She watches my every move
Sure not to miss a beat
I can't believe I am a mom
It's different, but neat

My hero, my saviour
My own little me
The love of my life

It's hard to believe
An unbreakable bond
Between her and I
No limit to love
When it reaches the sky

MOTHER OF TWINS POEM

-Unknown

There's two to wash, there's two to dry;
There's two who argue; there's two who cry.

One's in the mud, having a ball;
The other holds a crayon...another marked wall.

Some days seem endless, my patience grows thin.
Why was I chosen to be a mother of twins?

The answer comes clear – at the end of the day,
As I tuck them in bed and myself I say...

There's two to kiss, there's two to hug;
And best of all, there's two to love.

EXAMPLE OF PARENTHOOD

-Unknown

There are little eyes upon you and they're watching night and day
There are little ears that quickly take in everything you say
There are little hands all eager to do everything you do
And a little boy/girl who's dreaming of the day he'll/she'll be like you.
You're the little fellow's/lady's idol, you're the wisest of the wise
In his/her little mind about you no suspicions ever rise
There's a wide-eyed little fellow/lady who believes you're always right
And his/her ears are always open and he/she watches day and night.
You are setting an example every day in all you do
For the little boy/girl who's waiting to grow up to be like you.

DEAR CHILD....

-Unknown

I wish you the gift of empathy – the ability to stand in another's shoes and know their needs.
I wish you kindness – given as a gift and now as an obligation.
I wish you perception – to see without bigotry or self-esteem.
I wish you courage in all the hard times you will meet – a heart and mind that learns from failure –
and finds hope even at the edges of despair.
I wish that you become a person that shines with kindness and intelligence and love of life.
I wish you an exploratory mind and respect for the beliefs of others.
I wish you the love that changes and grows with every year that passes.

WHAT'S IN A NAME

-B. Sumner

What's in a name? It's more than a word
More than letters and sounds to be spoken and heard
It leads you back to your roots – to your family of old
And it speak to the promise your future will hold

What's in a name? It bears the mark of your tribe
Your belonging, your people, your heritage, your pride
Let it ground you in life – a sense of family bring
Let it raise you up mountains and lift you in wings

What's in a name? Such a huge choice to make
Your label for life – so second chances to take
It beats all of the feelings of before you were due
The excitement, the joy and the pride we felt too

What's in a name? So much power it holds
May it always be spoken with care, never scold
May it fall softly from lips, not in anger be spoke
May it resonate with the feelings of joy it evokes

So what's in a name? I could not fully say
In a minute, an hour or even a day
But to start I would say it means all the above
And for always – and forever – it means you are loved

REFLECTION OF A FAMILY

-Unknown

A family is a place to cry and laugh, to vent frustrations,
to cry for help, to tease and yell,
to be touched and hugged and smiled at.

A family is people who care when you are sad,
who love you no matter what, who share your triumphs,
who don't expect you to be perfect,
just growing with honesty in your decisions.

A family is a circle where we learn to make good decisions,
where we learn integrity and table manners, and respect for other people.

Where we are special, where we listen and are listened to.
Where we learn the rules of life, to prepare ourselves for the world.

The world is a place where anything can happen.
If we grow up in a loving family, we are ready for the world.

WISH LIST

-Colin McCarty

Of all the things we wish for you, we would give anything if these wishes could always come true...

We want you to be happy.

We want you to fill your own heart with feelings of wonder and to be full of courage and hope.

We want you to have the type of friendship that is a treasure – and the kind of love that is beautiful forever.

We wish you contentment: the sweet, quiet, inner kind that comes around and never goes away.

We want to have hopes and have them all come true.

We want to make the most of this moment in time.

We want you to have a real understanding of how unique and rare you really are.

We want to remind you that the sun may disappear for a while, but it never forgets to shine.

We want you to have faith.

May you have feelings that are shared from heart to heart, simple pleasures amidst this complex world,

and wonderful goals that are within your grasp.

May the words you listen to say the things you need to hear. And may a cheerful face lovingly look back at you when you happen to glance in your mirror.

We wish you the insight to see your inner and outer beauty.

We wish you sweet dreams.

We want to be able to make your good times better and your hard times easier to handle.

We want you to have millions of moments when you find satisfaction in the things you do so wonderfully.

And we wish we could find a way to tell you, in untold ways, how important you are to us.

Of all the things we'll be wishing for, whatever you are and whatever we may do, there will never be a day in our life when we won't be wishing for the best....

for you.

Wishes for a Child

-Joanna Miller

May you now the gift of friendship.
Feel the sun upon your face.
May you win displaying dignity.
And accept defeat with grace.

May you marvel with the wonders.
Of nature and the earth.
May you value education.
And know your own true worth.

May you live and love with honesty.
And do the thing that's right.
May you stand up for the homeless.
And sleep in peace at night.

May you thrive upon a challenge.
And sing and dance and laugh.
May you know the joy of parenthood.
And follow your own path.

Wishes on Your Naming Day

-Author Unknown

I wish you such a happy life
That's jam-packed full of fun
Adventures, friendships, laughter, love
And picnics in the sun.

I wish you a courageous life
With no dreams left untried
So that, whichever path you take
You'll always walk with pride.

I wish you an accomplished life
That celebrates your wins
But lets you know the equal joy
Of simply joining in.

But most of all, I wish for you
The life that you will choose
Your name is given, but who you'll be
Is completely down to you.

I Loved You from the Very Start **-Author Unknown**

I loved you from the very start,
You stole my breath, embraced by heart.
Your life together has just begun,
You're part of me my little one.

As mother with child, each day I grew,
My mind was filled with thoughts of you.
I'd daydream of the things we'd share,
Like late-night bottles and teddy bears.

Life first steps and skinned knees,
Like bedtime stories and ABCs.
I thought of things you'd want to know,
Like how birds fly and flowers grow.

I thought of lessons I'd need to share,
Like standing tall and playing fair.
When I first saw your precious face,
I prayed your life be touched with grace.

I thanked the angels from above,
And promised you unending love.
Each night I lay you down to sleep,
I gently kiss your head and cheek,
I would your little finger and toes;
I memorise your eyes and nose.

I linger at your nursery door,
Awed each day I love you more.
Through misty eyes, I dim the light,
I whisper, "I love you" every night.

I loved you from the very start.
You stole my breath, embraced my heart.
As mother and child our journeys begin.
My heart is yours forever, my little friend.

I Am Your Parent **-Maryann K. Cusimano**

I am your parent
You are my child.
I am your quiet pace
You are my wild.

I am your calm face
You are my giggle.
I am your wait
You are my wiggle.

I am your dinner
You are my chocolate cake.
I am your bedtime
You are my wide awake.

I am your lullaby
You are my peekaboo.
I am your goodnight kiss
You are my "I love you".

Guess How Much I Love You
-Sam McBratney

Then Little Nutbrown Hare had a good idea. He tumbled upside down and reached up the tree trunk with his feet.

"I love you all the way up to my toes!" he said.

"And I love you all the way up to your toes," said Big Nutbrown Hare, swinging him up over his head.

"I love you as high as I can HOP!" laughed Little Nutbrown Hare, bouncing up and down.

"But I love you as high as I can hop," smiled Big Nutbrown Hare and he hopped so high that his ears touched the branches above. That's good hopping, though Little Nutbrown Hare. I wish I could hop like that.

"I love you all the way down the lane as far as the river," cried Little Nutbrown Hare.

"I love you across the river and over the hills," said Big Nutbrown Hare. That's very far, thought Little Nutbrown Hare. He was almost too sleepy to think any more.

Then he looked beyond the thorn bushes, out into the big dark night.
Nothing could be further than the sky.

"I love you right to the moon," he said, and closed his eyes..

"Oh, that's far," said Big Nutbrown Hare. "That is very, very far."

Big Nutbrown Hare settled Little Nutbrown Hare into his bed of leaves. He leaned over and kissed him goodnight.

The he lay down close by and whispered with a smile, "I love you right up to the moon and back."