



# Bucket Fillers



Sharing Bucketfilling Ideas  
Bucket Lesson #24

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## Clay Buckets

We'd like to thank Stephanie Manning, School Advisor for Van Buren Elementary, a K-5 school, in Plainfield, Indiana. Stephanie is a dedicated bucketfilling educator who has inspired a number of schools to become "bucketfilling schools." She wanted to share a bucketfilling story about an art project that originated with Lindsey Warner, Van Buren's talented and enthusiastic art teacher, whose project filled a whole lot of buckets.

Lindsey's 5th grade students made clay buckets. Each student constructed a bucket with two holes at the top and one or two at the bottom. When their buckets had been removed from the kiln and were dry enough to paint, the students decorated their buckets. A single wire threaded through the two holes at the top served as a handle and another wire attached through the holes at the bottom allowed the students to add another design element or a message. The photos below show how Gabriella added a bell to her bucket and Dylan attached part of a verse from our *Bucket Filling from A to Z* book:



*Every one has a bucket that is invisible to the eye.  
When it's full you feel happy. When it's empty, you might cry.  
Please accept this bucket as a token just for you, because someone  
wants to fill your bucket and see your smile shining through!*

The students decided whether they would like to give their buckets to someone special, hang them throughout their community or choose somewhere else in the world. Because the students had such fun, Lindsey plans to make this an annual bucketfilling project.

Thank you for creating this wonderful art lesson and allowing us to share this bucketfilling experience with readers around the world.

For even more ideas, be sure to check out our past *Bucket Lessons* on our [website](#)!

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