

## The Teacher

It takes a special person who can plan and motivate,  
Someone who can organize, design and demonstrate;  
A person with commitment, one with open mind;  
One who can be flexible, compassionate and kind.  
One to cultivate a dream and help the dream come true;  
To plant the seeds of knowledge; be a good example too;  
And help a child to wonder, to question, to explore  
And discover worlds untold while searching far for more.  
To show a child he is unique with talents deep inside  
While teaching from the very heart as philosopher and guide;  
To calm the upset student with care and cheery smile  
And then persuade the skeptic child to go the extra mile.  
A teacher's needs are put on hold to always give the best  
No matter if the busy day refuses needed rest.  
The teacher's day is endless; the 'to do' list is long,  
All the while to be on guard if something might go wrong.  
Playground duty, a hurried lunch, report cards to complete,  
A supervisor dropping in, an irate Mom to meet,  
A stack of quizzes yet to mark, and workbook pages too,  
A fraction lesson to prepare before the day is through.  
Photocopies to run off, a long report to write,  
Tidy up the art supplies, break up a playground fight;  
Hear the story from both sides; review the Golden Rule;  
Bulletin board to decorate, staff meeting after school.  
Each day is so demanding; frustration takes its toll  
And next day's lessons to prepare while burning midnight oil.  
Although the road is often rough with bumps along the way,  
Just knowing that a life was touched helps make the teacher's day.  
Retirement meeting to attend; how fast the years have gone!  
Despite the obstacles and fears, sweet memories linger on.  
The dismissal bell will ring its last; the clock will say it's time  
To close the classroom door and leave the teaching world behind.  
And when life's lessons have been taught and plan books put away,  
The Master Teacher calls the roll on evaluation day.  
He reads each teacher's Book of Life and checks them one by one,  
Then puts a gold star on each page and writes in red, "Well done!"

K. Lister