

Once a little boy went to school.  
He was quite a little boy.  
And it was quite a big school.  
But when the little boy  
Found that he could go to his room  
By walking right in front of the door outside  
He was happy.  
And the school did not seem quite so big  
Any more.

One morning  
When the little boy had been in school a while  
The teacher said: "Today we are going to make a picture".

"Good!" thought the little boy.

He liked to make pictures.

He could make all kinds:

Lions and tigers,

Chickens and cows,

Trains and boats

And he took out his box of crayons

And began to draw.

But the teacher said: "Wait! It is not time to begin!".

And she waited until everyone looked ready.

"Now," said the teacher,

"We are going to make flowers".

"Good!" thought the little boy.

He liked to make flowers.



And he began to make beautiful ones  
With his pink and orange and blue crayons.  
But the teacher said, "Wait! And I will show you how".  
And it was red, with a green stem,  
"There," said the teacher,  
"Now you may begin".

The little boy looked at his teacher's flower,  
Then he looked at his own flower,  
He liked his flower better than the teacher's,  
But he did not say this.  
He just turned his paper over,  
And made a flower like the teacher's.  
It was red, with a green stem.

On another day

When the little boy had opened

The door from the outside all by himself,

The teacher said:

"Today we are going to make something with clay".

"Good!" thought the little boy,

He liked clay.

He could make all kinds of things with clay:

Snakes and snowmen,

Elephants and mice,

Cars and trucks,

And he began to pull and pinch,

His ball of clay.

But the teacher said: "Wait!  
It is not time to begin!".  
And she waited until everyone looked ready.  
"Now," said the teacher,  
"We are going to make a dish".  
"Good!" thought the little boy.  
He liked to make dishes.  
And he began to make some  
That were all shapes and sizes.

But the teacher said, "Wait!  
And I will show you how".  
And she showed everyone how to make  
One deep dish.  
"There," said the teacher, "Now you may begin".

The little boy looked at his teacher's dish,  
Then he looked at his own.  
He liked his dishes better than the teacher's,  
But he did not say this.  
He just rolled his clay into a big ball again.  
And made a dish like the teacher's.  
It was a deep dish.

And pretty soon the little boy learned to wait and to watch,  
And to make things just like the teacher.  
And pretty soon he didn't make things  
On his own anymore.



Then it happened that the little boy and his family  
Moved to another house, in another city,  
And the little boy had to go to another school.  
This school was even bigger  
Than the other one.  
And there was no door from outside  
Into his room.  
He had to go up some big steps  
And walk down a long hall  
To get to his room.

And the very first day he was there,  
The teacher said: "Today we are going to make a picture".  
"Good!" thought the little boy,  
And he waited for the teacher to tell him what to do,  
But the teacher didn't say anything  
She just walked around the room.

When she came to the little boy,  
She said, "Don't you want to make a picture?"  
"Yes", said the little boy, "What are we going to make?"  
"I don't know until you make it" the teacher said.  
"How shall I make it?" asked the little boy.  
"Why, any way you like", said the teacher.  
"And any colour?" asked the little boy. "Any colour", said the teacher.  
"If everyone made the same picture, and used the same colours,  
How would I know who made what, And which was which?".  
"I don't know", said the little boy.  
And he began to make a red flower,  
With a green stem.