The Last Word

Real Teachers
When I took one of my Reading Recovery students to a behind-the-glass session, I introduced her to my teacher leader. The next day, she questioned me about why I had a teacher. I told her that she helps me to learn more so that I can be a better teacher. Several weeks later, we were in the middle of a lesson when my student suddenly turned to me and asked, “So, are you a real teacher yet?”

— Joni Robinson, Ohio

Getting Out of Bed
I was introducing the book *Wake Up, Dad* (Rigby PM Reader) to one of my students. He enjoyed watching as each child in the family tried to get Dad out of the bed. As the book built to the ending, the little boy turned to me and said with a knowing smile, “I know why Dad doesn’t want to get out of the bed.” To which I responded, “Why?” His reply: “Because under that blanket he’s naked!”

— Janet Holbrook, California

Finding New Happiness
Monday: Michael comes to my room for RAK 1. As he steps in the door, he begins crying. He cries through most of the lesson saying, “I’m not smart. I can’t read.” No matter how much pumping up I do, I can’t get him to get over that hump, and he’s sad the whole time.

Tuesday: Michael comes to my room for RAK 2. Today there are no tears and he works through the lesson. At the end, when I tell him he had a great day, I only get a little smile.

Wednesday: Michael comes to my room for RAK 3. He has the biggest smile on his face and says, “I’m so happy.” Expecting an answer about something in class or at home, I asked why he was so happy. “Because I’m in here,” he replies. Made my day!

— Anonymous

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