

Letter writing is common place at the holidays. Kids write letters to Santa. Parents write brag letters to their friends. But, the kind of letter that I certainly don't write often enough is the kind addressed to my own child.

After all, I live with my kids; why do I need to write to them?

Well, often we write in letters what is hard to express in words. We can measure what we say more carefully when we write. And the recipient can hold onto our message and return to it over time.

This Christmas I propose a letter writing campaign of a different sort. Write a letter to your child, expressing your love and gratitude. Tell him or her all the things that you feel, that you assume he or she already knows, that he probably doesn't actually know. While it may feel goofy, chances are your words, if sincere, will be more valuable than anything else you put under the tree.

## Not sure where to start?

Here are some ideas to get you started:

- I am so proud of you because....
- I love it when you ....
- One of the things that makes you so special to me is ....
- I am so thankful for you because....
- You make me smile when you....
- On the day you were born....

On the next page is a letterhead you can print. Use a real pen and craft a letter to your child. Remember to sign and date it!





## About the Author

Jessica Fisher is a busy mom of six young children, aged toddler to teen.

(Homeschool) mom by day, she moonlights as a freelance writer, blogger, and cookbook author.



Published in over 85 regional parenting publications, Jessica enjoys writing for periodicals as well as the web. She writes about ways to manage a home and family and still keep a smile on your face at <a href="LifeasMOM.com">LifeasMOM.com</a> and posts "delicious ways to act your wage" at <a href="Good Cheap Eats.">Good Cheap Eats.</a> She is a regular contributor on <a href="Life Your Way">Life Your Way</a> and <a href="Simple Homeschool">Simple Homeschool</a>. Her writing has also been featured on <a href="5 Dollar Dinners">5 Dollar Dinners</a>, <a href="Money Saving Mom">Money Saving Mom</a>, <a href="Organizing Junkie">Organizing Junkie</a>, and <a href="Simple Mom">Simple Mom</a>.

Jessica is the author of a forthcoming cookbook in the *Not Your Mother's* series, published by the Harvard Common Press. She has also authored a number of ebooks, including <u>Organizing Life as MOM</u>, <u>Summer Survival</u> <u>Guide</u>, and <u>FishMama's Guide to Cooking with Children</u>.

For more information about Jessica, go to <u>Fishmama.com</u> or visit her at either of her two blogs, <u>LifeasMOM.com</u> and <u>GoodCheapEats.com</u>