

Say "thank you"

dorothy henderson
 education for the faith, ministry with
 children and youth
 ext 271
 dhenders@presbyterian.ca

**To sessions, church education committees,
 church school coordinators:
 Say "thank you" to teachers/leaders on a regular basis.**

Turn over a new leaf in 2005. Once a month, leave a little surprise for teachers and leaders. It will not cost much, and it reminds teachers and leaders (who often feel isolated) that their ministry is noted and appreciated. (Note: This is a form of ministry that older members in the church can provide for Sunday school teachers.)

Month	Gift	Note to attach
January	M&M candies	What you're doing in children's ministry is meaningful and marvelous! Thanks.
February	Valentine paper napkins	Thank you for being a great example of love to our children/youth. May God's love surround you.
March	Lifesavers	You bring unique flavour to our Sunday school. Thanks!
April	Gift certificate for Tim Hortons	Your presence in our Sunday school is a pick-me-up! Thanks for using your gifts there.
May	Chocolate chip cookies	If our Sunday school were a cookie, you'd be the chocolate chips! Thank you.
June	Post-it notes	Thanks for sticking with us this year!
July	Band-aids	Thank you for the care and protection of our children this summer
August	Jelly beans	Like these jelly beans, your leadership this summer brought colour, variety and sweetness to our program. Thanks!
September	Tea bags	As you enjoy a cup of tea, know that God works through you. You are noticed and appreciated!
October	Pen	Your ministry with our children/youth is write-on! Thank you.
November	Postcard from your area	Look! It's the place where you make a difference! Thanks for being with our children this year.
December	Gold foil-wrapped candies	Your teaching has been as precious as gold to us.

Ideas adapted for The Presbyterian Church in Canada from *Big Book of Volunteer Appreciation Ideas*, Joyce Tepfer, Gospel Light, 2004.