

# *9 Weeks to a Make A Difference Year!*



MARY ROBINSON REYNOLDS

Heart Productions & Publishing  
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# Getting Started

Before you begin to study **The 9-Week School Curriculum for a 'Make A Difference' Year**, we recommend that you read Mary Robinson Reynold's powerful new book, *Make A Difference with the Power of Connection*. It's a little book that speaks volumes; it's concise and a quick read that is amazingly comprehensive and thought-provoking. It will make a difference somewhere in your life the day you read it.

## Resources for Educators

- ✓ **Make A Difference with the Power of Connection**,  
in print, as a gift book:

[MakeADifference.com/Connection](http://MakeADifference.com/Connection)

- ✓ **The Teacher's Package**, including:
  - **Make A Difference with the Power of Connection Book**
  - **Make A Difference Movies DVD**
  - **'I ? ake a Difference' Wristbands**

[MakeADifference.com/TeacherPackage](http://MakeADifference.com/TeacherPackage)

You'll find it online as a virtual book, available at no charge, or in print, as a splendid little gift book for everyone who strives to make a difference in our schools today. It's a "must have" for every person on your faculty and staff, to pick up and re-read on those days the problems seem greater than the solutions. Online, the book can be viewed or purchased at:

[MakeADifference.com/Connection](http://MakeADifference.com/Connection)

## Other Resources for Educators

Another excellent resource is a "Teacher's Package" which includes:

- *Make A Difference with the Power of Connection*
- *Make A Difference Movies*, including:
  - *The Teddy Stallard Story Movie*
  - *The Acknowledgment Movie*
- Mary Robinson Reynolds' 1-hour video, *Makin' Magic with At-Risk Youth Training*
- 30 Blue 'I Make A Difference' Wristbands.

To learn more about the Teacher's Package, go to:  
[MakeADifference.com/TeacherPackage](http://MakeADifference.com/TeacherPackage)

## The Impact of the "Make A Difference" Movies

In 2006, Mary Reynolds was sent a musical rendition of the Teddy Stallard story. This is a story that was autobiographical in nature, written by Elizabeth Silance Ballard in 1974, about a little boy who almost fell through the cracks of the school system. Mary knew in a heartbeat that it needed to be a flash movie. A year later, she received another story, about an actual Acknowledgment Ceremony created by Helice Bridges—a ceremony that literally saved the life of a 14-year boy.

Over 6 million people have watched the *Teddy Stallard Story* Movie, and at the time of this writing, the *Acknowledgment* Movie is already at 3 million views in its first two months.

To watch these movies free online go to: **MakeADifferenceMovie.com** – for the *Teddy Stallard Story* & **AcknowledgmentMovie.com** – for the *Who I am Makes A Difference Story*. More movies are in production...so stay tuned.

### Let's Make A Difference

Thousands of schools are ordering the Make A Difference Movies, Gift book & Wristbands to build self-esteem and to remind children, adolescents and adults remember that they each matter as individuals –and that they alone can make a difference. Administrators are using our movies, books and wristbands for their in-service and professional development trainings, in order to create sustainable district- or school-wide momentum.



### About The Author: Mary Robinson Reynolds

Mary Robinson Reynolds holds an M.S. in Educational Psychology, Counseling & Development. She considers herself a TurnAround Specialist and is the author of six books. Her entrepreneurial trek, which has included work with adults and children in educational, corporate and personal settings, began nearly twenty years ago when she realized that as a teacher, and later as a guidance counselor, she was having success with at-risk youth that a large percentage of the educators would want to know about.



*I dedicate this curriculum to:*

- 🌸 First Year Teachers, to “hold dear” their idealism and purpose.
- 🌸 Teachers who feel Burned-Out, to “rekindle” their idealism and purpose.
- 🌸 Teachers “In It to Win It,” to “sustain” their idealism and purpose.
- 🌸 Parents, to raise Emotional Intelligence through compassion.
- 🌸 Staff & Administration, because they set the pace.
- 🌸 And to the children, because they are our future.

*Reaching out to make a world of difference ...*

*Mary Robinson Reynolds*



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## The 9-Week School Curriculum

*From the desk of Mary Robinson Reynolds*

You just need ... 9 Weeks to achieve a 'Make A Difference' Year!

### Why nine weeks?

Every school year, I felt the first nine-weeks of school set the stage for the entire year. I knew—down to my toes—that if my students' social and emotional needs were met, they would be highly functional for the rest of the school year. Life in my classroom would be very, very good. It just takes nine! Any nine weeks will do. You begin when you begin.

Through teaching children, educators, and parents how to build a compassionate community, we dramatically raised emotional intelligence—EQ—and therefore academic performance.

### How did I do this?

My goal was simple. I placed the children's social and emotional needs above my concern about making it through "X number of pages" per week.

### First Things First

In the first 9 weeks of the school year, every – and I do mean "every" – single time a social or emotional situation played out in the classroom, lunchroom or play ground, we had an open discussion – no matter how long it took. Take it exactly as it comes. Don't avoid, dismiss or ignore what's in front of you to take care of right here, right now. The payoff in nine weeks will be huge.

### Start with The Fundamentals

With the pressure to get kids to score high on achievement tests today, you simply must deal with the emotional and social issues first. Everything after that becomes the foundation for everything you could ever want the educational experience to be.

And now, I'm giving you my 9-Week School Curriculum so you can Pass-It-On.

