

# EVERYTHING I NEED TO KNOW...

**An excerpted from a speech given by: Robert Fulgham**

Socrates insisted that the unexamined life is not worth living, but the examined life isn't always a picnic either. I fall back on what I've come to think of as a Kindergarten State of Mind. Most of what I really need to know about how to live, what to do, and how to be, I learned in Kindergarten. These are the things I learned:

Share everything.

Play fair.

Don't hit people.

Put things back where you found them.

Clean up your own mess.

Don't take things that aren't yours.

Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody.

Wash your hands before you eat.

Flush.

Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you.

Live a balanced life. Learn some, and think some, and draw some, and paint and sing and dance and play and work every day some.

Take a nap every afternoon.

When you go out into the world, watch out for traffic, hold hands and stick together.

Be aware of wonder. Remember the little seed in the plastic cup. The roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows how or why, but we are all just like that seed.

Goldfish and hamsters and white mice, and even the little seed in the plastic cup—they all die.

So do we.

And then, remember the book *DICK AND JANE*, and the first word you learned—the biggest word of all—LOOK!

Everything you need to know is in there somewhere...the Golden Rule and love and basic sanitation. Apply any of those items to your family life or your work or your government or your world and they hold true and clear and firm.

And it is still true, no matter how old you are, when you go out into the world, it is best to hold hands and stick together.

Look, Look.

See Dick. See Jane.

See you, see me, see us.

See the universe, see life, see death—

Oh, look and see.