

Baby Naming Ceremony Booklet

Baby Naming Ceremony Example

Naming Ceremony
_____ & _____'s Baby Son/Daughter
on
Date

Welcome & Introduction
by: _____, Ceremony Officer

Reading:

Naming of the Child

Hopes for the child

_____ & _____ Promises to their son

Reading:

Acknowledgement and Thanks to
Grandparents

Reading:

Supporting Adults Promises

Closing Words

Signing of the Ceremony Record

Readings

Reading 1 *(see Reading 15 alternative version)*

If children live with criticism, they learn to condemn;
If children live with hostility, they learn to fight;
If children live with ridicule, they learn to be shy;
If children live with shame, they learn to feel guilty;
If children live with tolerance, they learn to be patient;
If children live with encouragement, they learn to have confidence;
If children live with praise, they learn to appreciate;
If children live with fairness, they learn justice;
If children live with security; they learn to have faith;
If children live with approval; they learn to like themselves;
If children live with love around them, they learn to give love to the world.
(Dorothy Low Nolte)

Reading 2

The Example of Parenthood

There are little eyes upon you and they're watching night and day;
There are little ears that quickly take in everything you say;
There are little hands all eager to do everything you do,
And a little boy who's dreaming of the day he'll be like you.

You're the little fellow's idol; you're the wisest of the wise;
In his little mind about you no suspicions ever rise.
There's a wide-eyed little fellow, who believes you're always right,
And his ears are always open and he watches day and night.

You are setting an example every day in all you do,
For the little boy whose waiting to grow up to be like you.

Reading 3

A Mother's Wish

I hope my child looks back on today
And sees a parent who had time to play
There will be years for cleaning and cooking
But children grow up when you're not looking.
So settle down, cobwebs; dust, go to sleep
I'm cuddling my baby, and babies don't keep
(Anon)

Reading 4

At seven o'clock every evening my Mum tucks me in my bed,
I'm nice and snug in my 'jamas, beside me my faithful old Ted,
I always nod off very quickly – before Mum has turned out the light
But when it's her bedtime much later, well then I wake up for the night.
For there's no time of day I like better than the hours between midnight and
three,

For Mum hasn't got any housework and can give attention to me.
And when I start yelling and shouting, Mum knows that she has to be quick
For the night when she leaves me to grizzle is the night I decide to be sick.

But Mum can't mind in the slightest at being my playmate 'til two-
She'd normally spend this time sleeping, for she's nothing much better to do.

Some nights she mixes a cocktail from the bottles she keeps on the shelf,
Which sometimes she gives me to swallow and sometimes she gulps down
herself!

And if in the morning I'm sleepy and feel in the need of a perk,
I can have forty winks in my pushchair while Mummy gets on with her work.
But nothing's as nice as the night time. And nothing can equal the pleasure
Of finding it's four in the morning and being Mum's wide-awake treasure.

Reading 5

I have seen a mother at a cot – so I know what love is;
I have looked into the eyes of a child – so I know what faith is;
I have seen a rainbow – so I know what beauty is;
I have felt the pounding of the sea – so I know what power is;
I have planted a tree – so I know what hope is;
I have heard the wild bird sing – so I know what freedom is;
I have seen the chrysalis burst into life – so I know what mystery is;
I have lost a friend – so I know what sorrow is;
I have seen a star-decked sky – so I know what infinity is;
I have seen and felt all these things – so I know what life is.

(Anon)

Reading 6

Now this is the day
Our child
Into the daylight
You will go standing
Preparing for your day.

Our child, it is your day,
This day.
May your road be fulfilled.
In your thoughts may we live
May we be the ones, whom your thoughts will embrace,
May you help us all to finish our roads.
(From writings of the Zuni Indians)

Reading 7

A Celtic Well-Wishing

The peace of the running water to you,
The peace of the flowing air to you,
The peace of the quiet earth to you,
The peace of the shining stars to you,
And the love and care of us all to you.

Reading 8

Being Small

Sometimes I just hate being small
When everyone else is tall
I think the world is most unfair
With me down here and them up there.

It's awful when a juicy peach
Is in a bowl out of reach
Or parents have safely put away
The toys with which I want to play.

It's terrible to have to stretch
For everything you want to fetch
While bigger people help themselves
To things from off the highest shelves.

Perhaps it might be less unfair

If they were kind of stuck up there
And had to wait till I came round
To give them things from off the ground;

But no, they can easily bend,
To fetch and carry, make and mend,
While if I want to reach that cup,
I have no way of bending up!
(John Macguire)

Reading 9

Through Baby's Eyes

I didn't expect a brass band, with welcome mat unfurled
To be on hand when I arrived, in this confusing world.
Nor did I expect a Doctor, to hold me by the feet,
Then quickly turn me upside down, and spank me on the seat.

At first I wasn't quite prepared for this enormous place,
Nor for the funny characters, that I would have to face.
But I soon learned to get my way, by looking sweet and shy
And when I wanted to be held, to make a fuss and cry

I've found it really doesn't take much difficult or guile
To wrap them around my finger,
All I need to do - is smile.

Reading 10

What we are -

No one is born a new being; He bears the psyche the imprint of past generations. He is a combination of ancestral units, from which a new being must be fused, yet he bears within him an essential germ, a potential of a unique individual value. The discovery of this unique essence and its development is the quest of consciousness.

(Frances G. Wicks)

Reading 11

Welcome to the world

Pick me out an old time song
Sing it right or sing it wrong
Play a tune that's nine months long
Welcome to the world.
Take my fiddle and my bow

Play you any tune I know
Keep you dancing while you grow
Welcome to the world.

You've got nappies in the pail
Mum's as skinny as a rail
Got the whole world by the tail
Welcome to the world.

Listen to that baby brawl
You know she thinks she's ten feet tall
And you'd think she'd done it all
Welcome to the world

In my mind I see you clear
Changing with each day and year
My, we're glad you're finally here
Welcome to the world.
May you grow up proud and strong
May your life be rich and long?
May your nights be filled with song
Welcome to the world.

(adapted from a song – Si Kahn)

Reading 12

When children come into our lives they bring a world of joys
Laughter and discoveries, kisses hugs and toys
Each day brings new surprises, special wonders to explore
When children come into our lives our world is new once more.

Reading 13

May beauty delight you and happiness uplift you
May wonder fulfil you and love surround you.
May your step be steady and your arm be strong,
May your heart be peaceful and your word be true.
May you seek to learn, may you learn to live.
May you live to love, and may you love – always.

Reading 14

Be true to those who trust you
Be pure to those who care
Be strong for there is much to suffer
Be brave for there is much to dare
Be friend to all – the foe and friendless
Be giving and forget the gift
Be humble, for you know your weakness
And then look up, and laugh, and love and live

Reading 15
A Child learns what he lives

If a child lives with criticism
He learns to condemn.

If a child lives with hostility
He learns to fight.

If a child lives with ridicule
He learns to be shy.

If a child lives with shame
He learns to feel guilt

BUT

If a child lives with tolerance
He learns to be patient

If a child lives with encouragement
He learns confidence.

If a child lives with fairness
He learns justice.

If a child lives with security
He learns to have faith.

If a child lives with approval
He learns to like himself.

If a child lives with acceptance and friendship
He learns to find love in the world.

Reading 16

May all your wishes come true
May you always do for others, and let others do for you
May you build a ladder to the stars and climb every rung
And may you stay forever young

May you grow to be righteous
May you up to be true
May you always know the truth, and see the light that's surrounding you
May you always be courageous, stand upright and be strong
And may you stay forever young

May you hands always be busy, and your feet always be swift
May you have a strong foundation when the winds of change shift
May your heart always be joyful, and may your song always be sung
And may you stay forever young.

Grandparents Readings

Reading 17.

You know a Grandma is a goner on her grandchildren when she:
Nurses every snuffle as if it were life-threatening...
Frames all outstanding report cards...
Swears that "Goodnight Moon" is her favourite book.

Reading 18.

A Grandma/pa is someone
Who's dear in every way.
Her/His smile is like the sunshine
That brightens each new day.
A Grandma/pa is someone
Who plays a special part
In all the treasured memories
We hold within our heart.

Reading 19.

Grandmother - grandchildren relationships are simple.
Grandmas are short on criticism and long on love.

Reading 20.

To show a child what has once delighted you,
To find the child's delight added to your own,
So that there is now a double delight seen in the glow of trust and affection,
This is happiness.

Reading 21.

Grandparents
Few can bring the warmth
We can find in their embrace,
And little more is needed to bring love
Than the smile on their face.
They've a supply of precious stories,
Yet they've time to wipe a tear,
Or give us reasons to make us laugh,
They grow more precious through the years.

Reading 22.

Grandmothers and Grandchildren have a lot in common.
They are inclined to straggle behind on walks.
They doze off at unexpected moments.
They like fancy cakes.
They are very fond of cats and know how to talk to them.
They are given to falling over.
They get the giggles.

Reading 23.

The purpose of discipline is self-discipline,
And its best resource is the full-time hovering presence of a
grandmother/father.
Grandmothers/fathers don't spoil children; tired parents do.

Reading 24.

Grandparents are meant for kisses and hugs,
For watching rainbows and catching bugs.
For baking all of your favourite things,
For books to read and songs to sing.

Reading 25.
Grandmother's Talent

A Grandmother has a special talent ~
She always knows just what to do,
To make her Grandchildren happy.
And to show them she loves them, too.

At the family get-togethers
She's the first person to look for ~
She can entertain small children for hours
And they always keep asking for more.

You can tell when a Grandmother's teasing
By the twinkle that shines in her eyes ~
She's an expert at settling problems
For she's loving, patient and wise.

Her Grandchildren always admire her,
Even when they are grown ~
They always feel proud and happy
To claim Grandmother as their own.

Reading 26.
When we run out of ideas,
When we run out of steam,
When we run out of hope ~
Who has ideas and steam and hope to spare?
Grandma/pa!

Reading 27..

Grandma's Gone Computer

In the not too distant past ~
I remember very well ~
Grandmas tended to do their knitting,
And their cookies were just swell.
They were always at the ready,
When you needed some advice.
And their sewing (I can tell you)
Was available ~ and nice.

Well, Grandma's not deserted you,
She dearly loves you still.
You just won't find her cooking
But she's right there at the till.
She thinks about you daily ~
You haven't been forsook.
Your photos are quite handy,
In the Pentium notebook.
She scans your art work now though,
And combines it with cool sounds,
To make electronic greetings.
She prints pictures by the pound.

She's right there when you need her,
You really aren't alone,
She's out now with her "putter pals,"
But she took her new cell phone.
You can also leave a message
On her answering machine;
Or page her at the fun meet;
She's been there since eight fifteen.

Yes, the world's a very different place,
There is no doubt of that.
So "E" her from her web page,
Or join her in a chat.
She's joined the electronic age,
And it really seems to suit her.
So don't expect the same old gal,
Cause Grandma's gone "Computer."

Reading 28.

What are Grandmas' for?

Grandmas are for stories
About things of long ago.
Grandmas are for caring
About all the things you know...
Grandmas are for rocking you
And singing you to sleep.
Grandmas are for giving you
Nice memories to keep...
Grandmas are for knowing
All the things you're dreaming of...
But, most importantly of all,
Grandmas are for love.

Reading 29.

Upstretched arms make Grandmas/pas put off rheumatism 'till tomorrow.

Reading 30.

Surely, two of the most satisfying experiences in life
Must be those of being a Grandchild or a Grandparent.

PARENTS PROMISES/ASPIRATIONS FOR THEIR CHILD/REN

1. to take joint responsibility for the welfare of your child;
2. continuing unconditional love and support for your child;
3. promise to support and encourage your child and respect him/her as an individual and help him/her grow to independence;
4. to help your child develop his/her own opinions, beliefs and values;
5. to offer your child a good example so that she/he learn right from wrong, truth from dishonesty;

6. to help your child develop physically and intellectually, by encouragement rather than pressure;
7. to influence your child's behaviour by good example, rather than by authoritative orders;
8. to bring your child up in a home filled with love and kindness and to teach him/her tolerance and respect for others;
9. to use all your wisdom, patience and love to help your child to fulfil herself/himself and help others throughout his/her life;
10. to keep (child) and clothe him/her, shelter and protect him/her, love and support her for as long as he/she needs us as best we can;
11. to provide (child) with an environment in which he/she is encouraged to develop an open-minded, sensitive and enlightened attitude to life and all those around him/her;
12. to love and cherish (child) uniqueness and do all in your power to help him/her respect his/her mind and body;
13. to help your child learn self discipline by your example and to understand the need for co-operation by your acceptance of each other's differences ;
14. to encourage self-reliance and to allow (child) freedom to explore his/her interests and potential in this world
15. Parents own choice:

SUPPORTING ADULTS PROMISES

1. That in time of difficulty, (parents) and (child) can turn to you for reassurance and help;
2. To keep careful watch over (child) until she/he grows to be an adult and be always ready to advise, encourage and comfort him/her;

3. Accept a special commitment to (child), to offer friendship and sanctuary, so that he/she can turn to you in times of doubt or difficulty, with confidence and trust;
4. Unconditional friendship and guidance without judgement and to support and share in the(child) successes and any failures in his/her life;
5. Accept to share the responsibility to provide the respect, honesty and warmth which will enhance (child's) personality;
6. Endeavour to assist (child) to live his/her life true to the values (parents) have taught him/her, and to rest in the confidence and awareness that he/she will be loved and treasured always;
7. Supporting Adults own choice: