
THE BASICS CAREGIVER'S PROMISE

BY RONALD FERGUSON

With my **heart** I will love you
And shield you from stress.

With my **mouth** I will speak what I feel.
With soft words and sweet songs every time I behold you
I'll show you that my love is real.

With my **fingers** I'll point at the objects I name
And I'll count them in groups to compare.
With my **feet** I will take you outdoors to explore
While we play and enjoy the fresh air.

With my **eyes** I will read as I show you the world
Through bright pictures and stories in books.
These are ways to make sure that your brain is prepared
For successes wherever you look.

This my promise I make from the day of your birth
That these *Basics* I'll faithfully do.
For my job is to help you grow happy and smart
Starting now when your life is brand new.

You will learn that your life is an artwork.
And that you are the artist in charge.
But before you decide what to do with your life

Listen now
To the beat
Of my heart.



Created by the Achievement Gap Initiative at Harvard University for use by The Basics, Inc., a nonprofit organization, and local campaigns in the Basics Learning Network.

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The Basics
www.rvabasics.org

The logo features a stylized family of three (two adults and one child) in orange and yellow, positioned to the left of the text.