

- 2) Print note pages on either colored or white paper or cardstock.
- 3) Add your personal content and leave notes for your kids to find.

Years ago, while searching online for Valentine's Day activities to do with my young children, I came across an inspiring idea. For two weeks leading up to February 14th, I left little heart-shaped notes on each child's bedroom door every night. On Valentine's Day evening, I considered the project closed and went to bed without leaving new love notes. In the morning, I awoke to two very disappointed little ones.

My kids had begun to eagerly anticipate the brief messages on their doors each day. Some notes were short and sweet, like, "I love you BIG!" Others said things like, "Your smile makes me smile," and, "Thank you for picking up your toys quickly," or, "I love how you helped your brother today." To me, those notes were simple and unimportant, just something fun to do as a countdown to Valentine's Day. But for my kids, the notes were a special treat they wanted to include in our normal routine.

Later that year, we found a miniature mailbox and, for Thanksgiving, I started the notes again. This time, I named things for which I was thankful about each of my children, leaving the notes in the mailbox with the flag raised for them to check in the morning. My kids were delighted and started drawing pictures to leave in the mailbox for me and Dad too.

Over the years, that mailbox has become an important part of our family story. My kids now leave written notes. Some express thankfulness for a favorite meal or a special trip. Others contain cherished requests of prayer for loved ones or for help with problems. During some seasons, we've used the mailbox consistently. At other times, it's sat empty for months. Yet it always remains ready and waiting to be used again.

I'll admit that my note-writing inspiration hasn't always been consistent. At times, I'll have dozens of ideas. But, occasionally, I can't seem to come up with anything beyond "I'm so blessed to be your mom" or "I love you."

In times of inspiration, I've learned to grab a notebook and jot some note ideas. You'll find an assortment of these in this document provided to kindle your own love notes to your children.

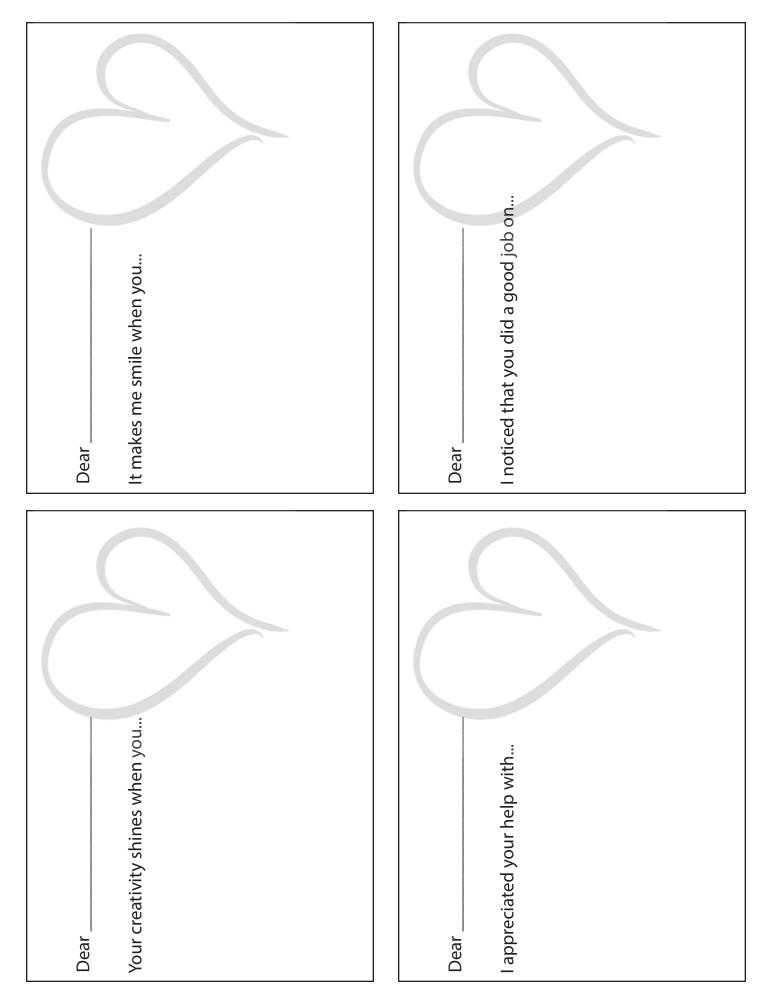
There are three types of love notes on the following pages:

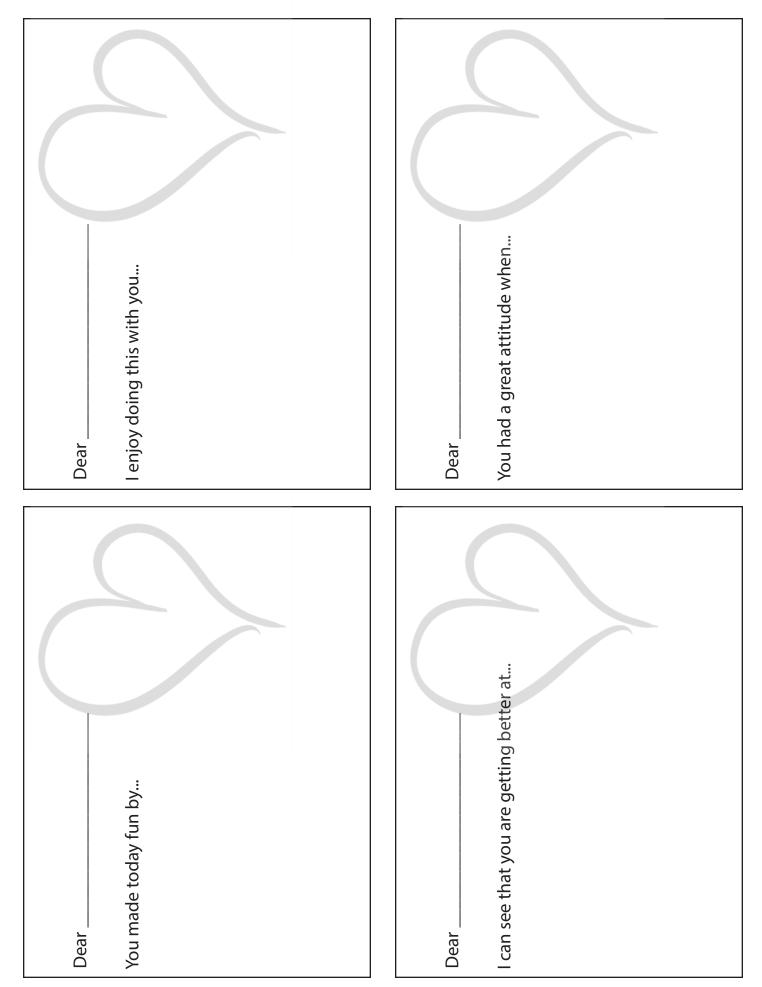
- 1) Opening prompts to aid you in recognizing your children's character and strengths.
- 2) Questions or discussion cues to spark dialogues with your kids.
- 3) Story starters to help you share your experiences and heart with your kids, giving them a heritage of faith to cherish.

A page of blank notes is also included because sometimes you just need to write without prompts.

If you use these notes, I would love to hear how your kids react! Also, if you have other ideas you would like included in this template, please email them to me.

~ Jenn Warren Homeschool lowa Marketing Director marketing@homeschooliowa.org





Dear What book would you like to read next?	DearWhat is something that you enjoy doing with our family?
Dear	Dear

Do you know someone who needs special prayer?	DearWhat is your favorite holiday?
Dears there anything you would like to talk about?	Dear

DearOne of my favorite Scriptures is:	DearIremember when:
DearOne of my favorite tmemories from when I was a child is:	DearMy favorite Bible character is:

Did you know that God did this for me?	DearI remember when God helped my parents by:
DearLet me tell you about the day that I was saved!	DearMy favorite song is:

