

## What Every Child Needs

*Fun* Take time to laugh and play and share the wonders of life with me.

*Affection* Warm hugs will nurture me and make this world a friendlier place.

*Acceptance* Appreciate me for the individual I am, with all my unique gifts and special talents.

*Respect* Treat me like an important and valuable person and I will learn to respect and honor myself and others.

*Praise* Tell me all the things you appreciate about me so I know how wonderful I really am.

*Security* Give me boundaries that will allow me to grow safely, feel secure and overcome my fears.

*Honesty* Share your real feelings and admit your mistakes to me, so I learn what it means to be a real person.

*Patience* Be understanding when I make my own mistakes; remember, even when it does not seem like it, I am trying to do my best.

*Forgiveness* Remind me that nobody is perfect and that it feels much better to forgive than to hold a grudge.

*Encouragement* Support me and be positive as I try new things and I will have the courage to keep exploring.

*Openness* Listen to me and be open to what you may be able to learn from me.

*Love* If you care for me in all these ways, you will be giving me the best life has to offer.