E for Effort
A kindergarten boy was sent to my office, crying because he had used a bad word in class. He was quite upset. Finally, he gathered himself long enough to say, “Mr. Quinn, it was F day in kindergarten and that was the only word I could think of when the teacher called on me!”

Terrence Quinn, Principal
Stocktrail Elementary School
Gillette, Wyoming

Just Waiting?
As the new assistant principal, I happened to be checking a boys’ bathroom one day when some first graders came in. Several of them wondered out loud who I was. Before I could answer, one of the boys piped up, “He’s the assistant principal.”

“What does that mean?” another asked.

“When the principal dies of cancer, he gets to become the real principal.”

Gary Ogg, Assistant Principal
Miami East Elementary School
Casstown, Ohio

No Road Rage Here
As the last child was getting on the bus at dismissal, I said, “Be good on the bus.” The second grader turned around and replied, “Be good in your car.”

Marilyn Krajenta, Principal
Indian Hill Elementary School
Round Lake Heights, Illinois

Going Buggy
Our principal was taking a real chewing-out from a parent but was managing to remain professional as the parent vented his dissatisfaction. But he couldn’t resist a grin when the parent angrily announced “I’m fumigating!”

Jennifer Young, Teacher
Avenue A Elementary School
Hutchinson, Kansas

Teach Him “Old McDonald”
Our very enthusiastic music teacher started the year by telling the kindergarten students they were all musicians. But when one student, normally cheerful and well-behaved, became very uncooperative and stubborn in music class over the course of several weeks, I had a conference with the student and the music teacher. After some prodding about what was wrong, Johnny pointed at the teacher and, with all the fury he could muster, said, “This guy says I’m a musician, but I’m really a farmer!”

David Sullivan, Principal
The Brooklin School
Brooklin, Maine

Humor Us
We need more stories! We’re looking for humorous anecdotes about school life like the ones you’ve read here. Include your full name, title, and address and send your favorite stories to publications@naesp.org. If any of yours are published, we’ll send you a copy of the magazine and a pencil that says “I’m a funny principal!”

“I’d like to thank Mr. Emory for this A+. I’d also like to thank my parents for their patience; my brother for being halfway normal; my best friend, Candy, for always being there…”