

## **My Friend Cathy Her First Nine Years**

### **Dedication**

To Cathy (Cathleen Jean),  
who was six years old (born November 1957) during the summer of 1964,  
when she lived at 27 Vincent Ave., Chautauqua, New York,  
visiting from the New York City area.  
"Just about my favorite person in the whole world"

### **Author's Note**

All the events in this book really happened, but to a different "Cathy".

### **Her First Year**

My friend Cathy came into this world with her eyes open, looking upward. Her parents were always happy to have a daughter.

Just like now, she had black and silky hair, a high and wide forehead, and long and strong legs.

She never cried or whimpered.

From the first, Cathy liked to move and smile, and think.

After five days, Cathy came home. The mist of the sea fell that day to greet and baptize her. When she lay down to sleep, a burst of sunshine bathed her.

Cathy always liked to stay up late, and wake early.

She liked it cool, not hot.

Some say that Cathy was an only child, and some that she had a nine-years-older sister named Judy (Judith A., born May 1949). Her grandmothers, grandfathers, uncles, and aunts visited her often, and she visited them.

Cathy was a happy baby. You will soon learn if she was happy later.

Cathy liked a crowd, and knew who was who by voice and sight.

Cathy spent a lot of time outdoors, where she did what she wanted.

Cathy was a close observer, following people's movements and expressions.

Cathy was indifferent to people's hugs. She did not like stroking. She never hugged anyone herself.

Cathy liked sun.

### **2nd Month**

When she was one month old, Cathy shed her first tear, but rarely cried after that.

Cathy started to vocalize early. Perhaps it was music.

Cathy liked to be carried, and to be the highest person.

Cathy always paid close attention. She always knew what was happening.

When she was five weeks old, Cathy quit grasping, and was never grasping again.

When she was six weeks old, Cathy could point her index finger, but did not know for what.

Cathy was scared of nothing, except spiders.

When she was seven weeks old, Cathy smiled, but not for strangers.

When talked to, Cathy responded. She liked music and songs.

Cathy knew how to get attention. Then she always smiled.

When she needed to feel better, she liked rocking, walking, and moving her arms and legs.

When she was eight weeks old, Cathy went to her first party. Thereafter, she rarely liked parties. But she did like balloons.

Cathy attended a graduation ceremony a day later, because her mother was a teacher. In her life, she had more graduations than anyone I know.

She was a good concentrator, and this skill saved her many times.

### **3rd Month**

When she was two months old, Cathy went to a nightclub, and liked the music and drums. When she was older, she never set foot in clubs or bars.

Cathy's hand-eye coordination was always good.

When she was nine weeks old, Cathy looked at her music box when she heard ice-cream truck music. She was always a good associator.

Cathy went to a ritzy town. In her life, she made no distinction between rich and poor.

Cathy started going to libraries. She usually went every week thereafter. She had at least one book read to her every day until she was in high school. She started to read them herself when she was six and three-quarters.

Cathy did not use a pacifier, suck her fingers, or put things in her mouth. But she did like to drink and eat.

Cathy enjoyed water. She liked to keep clean. At first, she only liked showers, not baths. She was a good swimmer later. She often splashed in rain.

When she was ten weeks old, Cathy saw a cat and dog. She never had a pet.

Cathy went to a university town to see an art gallery. She was always comfortable with intellectuals, and fools.

Cathy liked to manipulate objects. She could manipulate people, too, but they did not know it.

After her parents bought a hand-held TV camera, Cathy starred in her first movie. She became shy later, and never showed off for others.

When she was eleven weeks old, Cathy went to a toy store. She liked people better than toys, and liked to play games with them.

Cathy went to a Fourth-of-July fair in an island town. She was never jingoistic, or xenophobic.

Cathy visited her father's mother every three or four weeks, until she went to college. However, her grandmother rarely visited her, because her mother and grandmother did not get along.

When she was twelve weeks old, Cathy was a good eater, and was never picky about food.

Cathy smiled back when smiled at. Later, she would control her smiling, a useful tool.

Cathy went to a Japanese center to shop. In her life, Cathy experienced all peoples, arts, and cultures, and was comfortable with all of them. She heard two languages at home.

### **4th Month**

When she was three months old, when she saw people that she had not seen for hours, Cathy seemed to remember them. Her memory was always excellent, and her thinking fast.

When she was 16 weeks old, Cathy started to look like a girl, and started to laugh. She laughed a lot in the future.

### **5th Month**

When she was 18 weeks old, Cathy ate her first food, diluted and hydrolyzed rice cereal, and then oat cereal. She was a big cereal eater thereafter.

When she was 19 weeks old, Cathy went to buy clothes. She was always a careful and constrained shopper.

Cathy never rubbed, poked, or scratched herself. Her skin was seldom blemished.

Cathy went to Lake Tahoe, gambled one dime, and lost. She rarely gambled thereafter.

When she was twenty weeks old, her father worked during the day, and her mother in the evening. When they went out, she always went with them. Cathy never had a babysitter.

When she was 21 weeks old, Cathy tried creamed corn, sweet potatoes, squash, and carrots. She never made faces when she tasted things.

### **6th Month**

When she was five months old, Cathy liked it if you put your head down and lifted it to show your face. She played peek-a-boo a lot in the future.

Cathy sometimes reached out, for people to hold her.

When she was 23 weeks old, Cathy started to reject strangers. But this did not last long.

When she was 25 weeks old, Cathy had milk, cereal, and fruit for breakfast, vegetable and fruit for lunch, and cereal and egg for supper. She accepted the taste of any kind of food. Cathy started eating meat, but she later ate meat sparingly.

### **7th Month**

When she was six months old, Cathy was alert and full of energy, as was typical in her life.

When she was 27 weeks old, Cathy started to sleep through the night. Perhaps it was because she was so active.

She liked people, but could play by herself without needing attention.

Cathy liked to ride piggyback and on shoulders. She still liked to be the highest person.

When she was 30 weeks old, Cathy's teeth were visible inside her gums. Her baby teeth were straight, but her permanent teeth crooked, so she saw dentists many times in the future.

If an object was moving or being dragged, Cathy looked at where it was going. She also knew where things were supposed to be.

She pulled a cloth to bring something on it into reach. She always liked tools.

Cathy liked to see herself in a mirror, and seemed to know it was herself. She only used mirrors once or twice a day when she was older.

### **8th Month**

When she was seven months old, Cathy imitated the sound "baa". Perhaps talking is imitating.

When she was 31 weeks old, Cathy liked to cling to her parents. Later, she was too independent.

When she was 33 weeks old, Cathy stopped eating baby food, but still drank milk from bottles. She ate ground-up regular food, and liked all kinds.

When she was 34 weeks old, Cathy could imitate "dada". Perhaps B's and D's are the easiest consonants to pronounce.

Cathy liked to pull papers out of her father's box, and then throw them backward over her shoulder and sides. She liked to pull leaves off trees and plants.

### **9th Month**

When she was 35 weeks old, when she dropped something or realized something, Cathy said "uh".

A cupboard had two, right and left, doors that opened outward from the middle. Cathy tried to open the right cupboard door by pulling its left side, and was successful. She then tried to open the left door by pulling its left side (although the right side was closer). When it did not open, she tried pulling its right side. She first had repeated a successful action, and then tried the obvious alternative. She never tried pulling the top or bottom.

She could stand up to reach things on a low table. Cathy tried climbing up on a chair. After help getting on the chair, she tried to climb from there onto a table. Having learned to climb, she later climbed up on a box without help.

When she was 36 weeks old, Cathy could say most consonants, and could say two syllables together.

When music was on, Cathy imitated folk-dance hand movements, which she had seen many times.

When she was 37 weeks old, Cathy waved good-bye and hello, but could not tell which was which.

Cathy played with soap, toys, and cups in the shower, and in the kitchen sink.

When a toy was moved out of sight behind something, Cathy realized that it was behind, and still existed.

She remembered things that she had done the day before, and was bored with. Also, she always liked to try new things.

When praised, she seemed not to care about rewards.

When someone pointed at something, Cathy looked there, but she understood no other instructions.

When she was 38 weeks old, Cathy began to point, with either hand (but not both at once), to show the direction that she wanted to go.

She was shy with strangers, but not afraid.

When she was 39 weeks old, Cathy played in a rain puddle. Later, she would have many adventures in rain.

### **10th Month**

When she was nine months old, Cathy played with leaves and twigs, and seemed to compare them.

She put glasses back on and things back in drawers, as well as take them off or out.

When she was 40 weeks old, Cathy looked in a window to see something that she remembered. She had a good idea of space and directions. She knew the locations of things around her.

She realized what would happen when eating, going outside, and other situations. For example, she knew a coat meant going out. She waited quietly for going out and getting her milk, since she knew they were coming.

Cathy pointed to outside and tried to say something like "out".

When she was 41 weeks old, Cathy rocked to songs that she had heard before. She remembered them.

When she was 43 weeks old, when she pointed, Cathy said something like "at" (that?). She wanted to go there or be given something. She liked to point.

### **11th Month**

When she was ten months old, Cathy understood the words "door", "out", "pants", "shirt", "shoe", "sock", and "tree".

When she was 44 weeks old, Cathy checked for approval or disapproval before doing something that had been prevented before. If the word "no" was said loudly or in a bad tone, she cried. She did not shake her head to mean "no", and did not understand the word "no" itself.

Cathy appeared to be right-handed.

When she looked at things, she pointed and said "da". Cathy liked to be taken toward it or have it brought to her.

When she was 45 weeks old, Cathy helped put apples and other foods into bags at grocery stores and pulled plastic bags out from rolls. She liked to look inside things, and take things out and put them in.

When she was 47 weeks old, Cathy moved ten cans to the back-porch lower step, then put them on the top step, and then put them back down again. She liked to rearrange objects, and people.

### **12th Month**

When she was eleven months old, Cathy understood more words: "ice", "up", and "train" (because a train rumbled by not far from her house ten times a day).

She no longer feared strangers.

When she was 48 weeks old, Cathy understood more words: "ball", "can", "dog", "flower", "milk", "plane", "pull", "push", "rock", "show", "spoon", and her own name.

When she was 51 weeks old, Cathy knew "in", "out", "far", "near", "open", and "closed".

Cathy could say "ba" (ball), "da" (dog), "da" (door), and "pla" (plane).

### **Her Second Year**

When she was 54 weeks old, Cathy walked fast toward a soft spot on which to land. She fell laughing and screaming, and got up immediately to do it again.

Cathy said "ask" to get what she wanted.

### **14th Month**

When she was 13 months old, Cathy played outside every day, and went to watch children playing. She did not try to participate, but did get close.

When she was 58 weeks old, Cathy's father started to change the things that he did when he left home, because Cathy had learned the sequence and would cry.

When she was 59 weeks old, Cathy could make all sounds, and spoke sentence-like phrases that were English-sounding.

If a word was pointed out to her, she understood, but did not remember it.

### **15th Month**

When she was 61 weeks old, Cathy said "bye" several times when she left.

When she was 62 weeks old, Cathy did not like to have her hair washed, because she was scared that she could not breathe. She liked to put on cream after a shower.

When she was 63 weeks old, Cathy patted her father's pants pockets to check for keys. She liked to try opening the car door and trunk.

When she was 64 weeks old, Cathy stopped drinking formula. She drank milk four times a day, from a cup with a spout. She often drank a bottle of milk before sleeping.

Outside, Cathy went up to meet children, animals, and adults. Bigger children held her hand and patted her, and she just stood and let them do it.

When she was 65 weeks old, Cathy could understand whole sentences: "Take it to the trash." "Go to sleep." "Go over there." "Go ahead." "Let's go out." "It's over there."

Cathy could say "ball", "bird", "dog", "door", "father", and "mother".

### **16th Month - 1.25 Years Old**

When she was 66 weeks old, Cathy said words instead of crying, and was rewarded.

Cathy went to a fair, rode a pony, rode a merry-go-round, rode a car, rode a Ferris wheel, and went through a fun house. She saw ducks, chickens, turkeys, cows, pigs, sheep, and goats, and a horse show. She liked the gardens and waterfalls. When young, she went to all fairs and circuses.

When she was 67 weeks old, Cathy looked at a doily and recognized that it was similar to a doily on the wall. She then asked for a doily that was then in a drawer, but two months before had been with the first doily.

Cathy visited her grandmother in the morning. She remembered where she was going, that she had been there before, and who lived there.

When she was 68 weeks old, Cathy remembered that her mother once used glue to fix the back of her shoe, went to get the glue from a closet, and applied it to the back of her shoe, and then to other shoes.

### **17th Month - 1.33 Years Old**

When she was 70 weeks old, Cathy was often twirled around, bounced on a sofa or bed, and lifted, and laughed a lot. She also liked to dance.

When she was 71 weeks old, Cathy often went out to parks and playgrounds. She played with sand, got water from water fountains, slid down slides, and swung on swings. If she fell off a swing and hit her face on the sand, she did not mind and got right back on. She liked to watch other children.

When she was 72 weeks old, Cathy could say more words: "bye-bye", "that", and "yes". She could understand all words about things.

When she was 73 weeks old, Cathy went to Los Angeles, where she played with her great cousins' stuffed animals. Later, her room was packed with plush animals.

### **18th Month**

When she was 75 weeks old, Cathy started to cry, stopped herself, and asked for what she wanted, just like her father always told her to do. She often asked for "up" or "down".

When she was 76 weeks old, when a person asked her if she wanted to have or do something, Cathy said "yes" or "no". Cathy cried when someone else got on a small merry-go-round when she was riding alone.

Cathy came to a parent when she heard a sound that was "dangerous". She was aware of fear, and protection.

Cathy played outdoors with two upstairs girls, two and five years old. She played confidently with both. After that, she played with neighbors or classmates almost every day, outside, at their house, or at her house.

When she was 77 weeks old, when she fell down and hit something, Cathy did not cry. She just got up, smiled, and said "oops".

### **19th Month - 1.5 Years Old**

When she was 18 months old, Cathy started to have books read to her, and liked it. After that, she heard at least one book before sleeping every night until she was in high school.

When she was 79 weeks old, Cathy was asked if she wanted to eat or go out, and she said "no". She then was asked if she wanted to sleep, and she said "yes".

Cathy could say more words: "baby", "cat", "clothes", "gas", "horse", "house", "juice", "money", "shoe", "sock", "stick", "trash", and "there-it-is".

When she was 80 weeks old, Cathy started taking vitamins and fluoride drops every day, in milk or juice. She did that until high school.

Cathy saw a person yawning in her house, remembered the picture of a doctor yawning in "The Noisy Book", and went to look for the book.

When she was 81 weeks old, Cathy could not say the letter "L" or complex consonants, but could repeat most words. She talked to herself more than before.

When a fly was in the house, Cathy remembered the fly in "The Noisy Book", and went to find the book.

When she saw a bed in a book, she pointed to the bed in the room.

When she saw children in a book and heard her parent say the word "children", she looked upstairs to where the two children lived.

Cathy liked music, and asked to have it played. When Cathy heard music, she sometimes turned herself around and around until she was dizzy.

When she was 82 weeks old, Cathy put her fingers in her mouth or nose, so that her parents would say "no". She pretended to balk at their requests, so they would react. She was starting games herself.

She said "hi" to people when she went out.

### **20th Month**

When she was 83 weeks old, when a big bus went by while she was on a sidewalk, she was scared and said "whoa". Cathy talked to her dolls, saying "let's go" and "out". Cathy realized that the parts of a doll body were the parts of a human body. She could compare body parts.

She knew that she could stop a game at any time. She understood the idea of "pretending".

She seemed to understand the idea of possession: that some things belonged to her and some to someone else.

When she was 84 weeks old, Cathy could say more words: "Andy", "balloon", "bean", "bear", "berry", "bird", "car", "clock", "clothes", "coat", "coke", "dirt", "egg", "eye", "glasses", "grape", "leaf", "light", "orange", "pants", "purse", "shirt", and "tea".

Cathy understood that a "Color Kitten" was crying, pointed to it, seemed to think it over, and then pretended to cry. Sometimes, she did not recognize a picture of an animal as the animal.

When she was 85 weeks old, Cathy painted using a brush and water colors. She wanted to keep it with her mother's pictures. She knew the colors red and blue. Later, she painted regularly, but never took lessons.

After she was told something in a book was corn, she made some corn to eat.

If told that other people wanted something, she understood. Perhaps she compared it to her wanting something.

She noticed the Moon in a picture in a book. She looked for it on the front cover, but it was not there, so she looked on the back cover.

When it was pointed out that there was an open door on a book's front cover and a closed door on the book's back cover, Cathy turned the book over and over.

When she was 86 weeks old, Cathy saw a cat jumping for a ball in a book, and acted it out. She made a face when she saw any facial expression in a book. Cathy could pretend to cry.

### **21st Month - 1.67 Years Old**

When she was 87 weeks old, Cathy drank some powerful lemonade, and made faces.

When she was 88 weeks old, Cathy took medicine in a plastic spoon shaped like an alligator. After the medicine was poured in, she held the alligator and slurped it herself.

When she was 89 weeks old, when she saw burnt-out Christmas lights, she said "oh-oh".

When she was 90 weeks old, while listening to classical music and slow popular music in a car, Cathy cried gently with no sound. Perhaps she felt that it was sad.

Cathy could say more words: "apple", "box", "cream", "drops", "hand", "hanger", "happy", "heat", "key", "more", "news", "oil", "rock", "salt", "soap", "sticky", "stop", "suit", "tape", "top", "towel", and "zoo". Cathy used about 80 words.

### **22nd Month - 1.75 Years Old**

When she was 21 months old, at a state park with big redwoods, jays followed her since she had a cookie. She put it on a post, and they came to eat it.

Cathy could say more words: "brush", "bunny", "dry", "lid", "nail", "paint", "pen", "pillow", "pot", "scissors", "steam", "tish", and "wet".

When she was 92 weeks old, Cathy started to watch and understand things on TV. When her grandparents were not watching, she was allowed to watch only animal and music shows.

Cathy started to take baths, with boats, bottles, and pans. She liked to play with bubbles, and "swim" in the bath. Her parents bathed and dried her.

When she was 93 weeks old, when Cathy realized that her mother and grandmother had left without her, she whimpered "me?" and then was taken to the car so that she could go.

Cathy knew many words: blanket, boat, box, brush, bus, coat, cold, come, cream, drops, dry, duck, fast, food, guitar, horn, hot, more, move, news, open, paint, pants, pear, plane, police, pot, scared, scissors, seat, shirt, steam, tall, wood, trash, turn, and wet. She could learn new words immediately.

When she was 94 weeks old, Cathy could say more words: "bottle", "bowl", "come", "cook", "cow", "drive", "fox", "go", "hot", "house", "mail", "man", "me", "pat", "piece", "plant", "plug", "pull", "run", "seat", "see", "sit", "soup", "spider", "sweep", "swing", "tube", "walk", "wall", and "wash". Cathy said "me" to mean "me" or "you".

When she was 95 weeks old, Cathy went to a park. All the swings were full when she arrived, and she said "no". At the slide, she let younger children slide down before her, but took her turn when older children went down.

### **23rd Month**

When she was 22 months old, Cathy could say so many words that I could not keep track anymore, such as "OK" and "Don't do that." She had the feel of speaking. Her pronunciation was clear, except she could not say L's or Z's.

When she was 97 weeks old, Cathy ate watermelon, ran to the door, banged into it, and then ran back to eat another bite. The next day, she remembered what she had played when she ate watermelon and did it again.

Her father always said "I get ... for you." when he got her milk, juice, blanket, and so on. After she tossed her father's pillow off the bed, he asked her "Where's my pillow?" She got down from the bed to get it, and said "I get" twice on the way. Was it an automatic response, or an association?

When she was 98 weeks old, Cathy said "thank you" when she was given something.

Cathy asked if she could go to a park. She listened to the answer. So she began to have conversations.

Her father brought her swing indoors and started to swing her in it. He told her that the chains hurt his hands and he did not have any gloves. She suggested that he get "hand" (the insulated hands for hot things). Her father got two of them and swung her.

### **24th Month**

When she was 100 weeks old, Cathy sang to herself two times. She broke it up into phrases, with a cadence. It was nice and pleasant singing, soft and simple. It was not classical or popular.

Cathy chopped vegetables, stirred a pot, and set the table. Almost every day after that, she helped cook.

When she was 101 weeks old, when her father was at work, Cathy talked to him on the telephone every day. She said "hi" and talked about going out, work, and the bus.

Cathy pointed out "planes" going overhead to the airport. First she said "air", and then could say "airport".

When she was 102 weeks old, Cathy said "glasses off", "come on", and "help you", and from then on could use two-word phrases.

Cathy saw a balloon loose high in the sky. She said that it was a kite.

Cathy picked up a rod with four branches on the end. She put it close to the ground and said "walk".

When she was 103 weeks old, Cathy saw a man that was hunched and wobbly and said "clown".

Before sleeping, she asked for a kiss.

When she was 104 weeks old, at a restaurant, her uncle asked her to finish her last bite of food. She put the food in her mouth and kept it in all the way home, where she spit it out into her mother's hand. Then she turned to the uncle and said "no" flatly.

Cathy started to say "please this" for something she wanted.

### **Her Third Year**

When she was two years old, Cathy and her father played a game of sitting or standing on the big bed's end rail, drinking "hot tea", and falling backward into the bed. She was allowed to jump on the bed anytime a parent was on hand.

When she was 105 weeks old, Cathy used different endings of her father's name: -y, -ia, and no ending. Perhaps she knew about parts of words.

Cathy started a swimming class at a YMCA. She slid under water with no fear. During her classes, she wore floaters and learned to paddle and kick.

When she was 106 weeks old, at a mall, she went far from her parents and pretended to go out of open sight. She had no fear, and tried things for fun.

She watched the Disney movie "Mary Poppins" for a short time, but then got bored. She got an umbrella out of a closet. Her parents lifted her up, and she pretended to fly.

She often said two-word phrases beginning with "big" or "little".

Cathy started to use sentences: "Train went house." "I help you." "Do myself." "I do that." "Let's go."

When she was 108 weeks old, when her father got a piece of hair in his eye, Cathy said "eye piece hair".

While her father stood outside (just in case), Cathy and the six-year-old girl from upstairs played dolls, jumped on a bed, and watched TV in a six-year-old neighbor girl's house for 30 minutes. A week later, she went back to touch, and look in the face of, a baby.

### **26th Month**

When she was 25 months old, Cathy started going to dancing classes. She had tights, a tutu, ballet slippers, and tap shoes. She was the youngest. She turned around in the middle of the group without paying any attention to others. She told the children not to hold her hand and not to take her flower. She went to dance lessons every week until she went to high school. In later classes, she learned ballet, tap, jazz, acrobatics, and traditional dancing.

When she was 109 weeks old, Cathy said "myself" when she wanted to do something or something was for her.

When she was 110 weeks old, Cathy invited neighbor children to play in her house. They played that they went through a jungle and acted like cats.

She started to go to the hot tub in her complex. She stood on her toes, so water went up to her chin. She then laid her head back in the water. She hung onto the bar and put her feet up, and so floated. By sinking under a little, she took sips of water, and then spit them to make a fountain.

When she was 111 weeks old, after her father mentioned that his shirt had one stripe on one sleeve, she noticed that there was one stripe on the other sleeve, saying "two stripes". She said that her dress, which was on the floor, had "no stripes". She had started on numbers.

When asked about a food, she said "I like it".

When she was 112 weeks old, Cathy started to take baths by herself, and washed and dried herself.

She played that her mother tried to eat her and laughed a lot.

Cathy saw a string on the floor and started to measure with it, saying "measure".

At the hot tub, Cathy liked to be pulled through the water on her tummy or back. She liked to jump in the water while her arms were held. She blew some bubbles under water. She let the hot-tub bubbles push her around. She did not mind when people came to swim in the (small) hot tub with her. When she got hot, she tried the cold-water pool.

### **27th Month**

When she was 113 weeks old, Cathy pretended that she was talking for her bunny as she played under covers with her bear, bunny, and father.

She played hide-and-seek with her father.

When she was 114 weeks old, Cathy crawled through a big cardboard box, and then put it over her head, ducked down inside, and popped out, like jack-in-the-box.

At the hot tub, she pushed off the edge and let her father catch her.

Cathy said longer sentences: "My doctor said swimming all right now." "Your doctor said ..." "... said go home now." She could use subject, verb, and object. She could use different words for subject and object. She could use possessive adjectives.

When she was 115 weeks old, Cathy and two neighbor girls went around the back of her building through branches and bushes, and pretended that they went through a jungle, with animals singing and dancing. They pretended that they were bunnies, eating carrots and hopping.

When she was 116 weeks old, in the pool, Cathy floated using arm supports. She rode a float while being held. She rode in an inner tube with some children.

### **28th Month - 2.25 Years Old**

When she was 27 months old, at a park, some boys played in the sand with her, making pies and pouring sand. She did not talk with playmates yet, but she did ask other children if they would like to swing.

When she was 118 weeks old, at the hot tub, Cathy tried going under water up to her nose and then jumping across.

With her parents, she sang and danced to "Ring around the Rosy", "Mulberry Bush", and "Twinkle Twinkle".

When her father said a relative's name, she said their other name.

When she saw a picture of bubble blowing, she remembered that her grandmother had a bottle of bubble-making fluid.

When she was 119 weeks old, Cathy played with her statues of Mendelssohn, Beethoven, Liszt, and Chopin. She gave Chopin a birthday party. When asked who composed some music on the radio, she said Tchaikovsky.

When her uncle blocked her from going around, Cathy quickly went under his leg and got to the other side.

When she was 120 weeks old, Cathy went to a school for children up to 2.5 years old in the afternoon. The next day, she went to a school for ages 2.5 to 4 years old, where she sang and played in the afternoon. She liked it.

Cathy's dancing class had a dancing show. She was a butterfly and followed her teacher by flying and lying down. At the end of the show, she came back on stage and clapped.

### **29th Month - 2.33 Years Old**

When she was 28 months old, Cathy said "Where is it?", "Why ...", and other complex and compound sentences about different times, places, and people.

When she was 122 weeks old, Cathy went to a Montessori school for the afternoon. She liked it and its "toys". She did not miss her parents, except a little when they dropped her off, and was calm as soon as they left. She was grumpy after school, perhaps because she was hungry and sleepy. She only went to school for one month.

When she was 123 weeks old, when her father said "The parents could not do this." and "The children could not do this.", Cathy said "Nobody could do it." Perhaps she knew about classes of things, and/or could substitute a word for another of the same meaning.

Cathy could count to 6 automatically, and count to 3 with understanding. Cathy could use her fingers, on both hands, to show a number.

When she was 124 weeks old, Cathy put some seats on the rug, sat at the front to drive, and got on and off, and pretended that she was riding the bus to school with other children.

### **30th Month**

When she was 126 weeks old, Cathy started to go to an older woman's house, for morning day care. Her father told her that the woman was a "substitute grandmother". She said that it was OK. There was a baby, dog, fish, and yard. The dog stayed out when she was in, so she was not scared.

When her mother told her to stay asleep, she said "Be nice." to her.

When she was 127 weeks old, Cathy liked to ask where she was going. When Cathy went to her uncle's house, she saw a car with wood and said that it was going there. Her father said that it was going in the same direction, but not to that house, and then she said that it was going next to that house.

When she was 128 weeks old, Cathy practiced doing different faces, voices, and actions, and knew she was doing it. When "Adagio" came on, she turned, pointed, and stood on her toes, dancing by herself.

### **31st Month**

When she was 30 months old, Cathy pretended that she was the mother and her parents were babies ("little baby"), and put them to sleep, fed them, and gave them a birthday party. She arranged chairs to drive and take them places, Her father had to cry and then wait for her to come back from work or school.

When she was 132 weeks old, Cathy played musical chairs with her father, going around a chair to music on her piano.

When she was 133 weeks old, Cathy's dancing teacher put her arms up and feet apart and asked what she had made. Cathy said "X", which her teacher had told the class the previous week.

She read a book that had a tuba in it. Her father asked what other book had a tuba, and she said "Dog". Her father asked what was the dog's name, and she said "Ted", remembering the scene from "Go Dog Go".

### **32nd Month - 2.5 Years Old**

When she was 136 weeks old, Cathy went to her mother's ESL class. She answered all her mother's questions out loud and filled in all the blanks on her worksheets.

Cathy played that she was a cat in a cage and popped out of her cage to scare people. She played that her father was a cat, and she was the zookeeper. Then she was a cat and played with toys and drank milk. Finally, she played piano for cats to dance.

When she was 137 weeks old, Cathy remembered snow. Her father suggested skiing, so her parents got railroad track and golf clubs for skis and put on her soft boots for ski boots.

Cathy told things to herself or to one of her dolls or animals, or pretended to read a story to them. However, she could not follow instructions.

When she was 138 weeks old, Cathy pretended that she was a person and her father was an elephant at the circus. She gave him his food and drink and patted him. They rolled over and played.

### **33rd Month**

When she was 141 weeks old, Cathy painted her face to be a clown and looked in the mirror. She painted her bunny, too. She sat on the sink to wash off and stayed there washing dishes and bottles.

She put barrettes in her father's hair and combed it.

When she was 142 weeks old, Cathy's father held her hands, and Cathy walked up his front to sit on his shoulders. He then pretended to drop her. After that, she slid down or did a backflip.

When she was 143 weeks old, when the Christmas tree was taken down, she asked where her parents were going: to a new house or hotel?

### **34th Month - 2.67 Years Old**

When she was 144 weeks old, Cathy started asking for the names of things and what they did.

When she was 145 weeks old, when it was cold, she played "jump under the covers".

When she was 146 weeks old, Cathy's father carried her around and threw her on the bed, pretending that she was an airplane.

When she was 147 weeks old, Cathy went to a flea market and rode a merry-go-round. She asked her father to stay off. She waved as she went by.

### **35th Month - 2.75 Years Old**

When she was 148 weeks old, Cathy put tape on a foam ball and stuck it on her nose, to be a clown.

When she was 149 weeks old, Cathy saw a sign and recognized some letters. She attached magnetic letters on her steel wagon. She chalked letters on the curb outside.

When she was 150 weeks old, when her mother left for work, she said goodbye and closed the door for her, but then ran out to ask her when she should get her grandmother. Then her mother chased her back to the house for fun.

When she was 151 weeks old, Cathy could hop, skip, stand on her head, somersault, and cartwheel.

Cathy used her new big plastic blocks to make a doghouse. She put blocks with "I" on them (bones) inside for the dogs to eat.

### **36th Month**

When she was 153 weeks old, Cathy used her plastic blocks to build a fence for a pasture. Her father was a horse that went inside. She rode the horse around and back.

When she was 154 weeks old, since the place scared her, she rode on her father's shoulders while her parents had a ballroom dancing class. She liked dancing.

Cathy hugged her coat's arms when her father made them into puppets.

She started to have her own room. She helped transfer her furniture and stuff. However, she still slept in her parent's room. Three weeks later, she went to sleep in her own room, but her parents put her in their room so that she would not be afraid if she woke up.

When she was 156 weeks old, Cathy read about a girl who danced in a "Nutcracker" show. In the story, after the show, a woman gave her ballet slippers to a girl. Cathy asked what dancing shoes the woman would then use.

### **Her Fourth Year**

When she was 159 weeks old, at a park, Cathy crossed the bars and hung on a bar of a jungle gym.

### **38th Month**

When she was 162 weeks old, Cathy used her plastic blocks to make a wall with window openings, and counted windows up to 12.

When she was 163 weeks old, Cathy looked at pictures of her uncle's baby and said "Baby said take a picture of me."

When she was 164 weeks old, on the way home from ballet class, she asked for a joke. (The week before, she had listened to a story in which a child read a joke and told it to his mother.)

### **39th Month**

When she was 38 months old, Cathy played that a gorilla (her father) tried to tickle her, but her mother hid her under the covers.

When she was 168 weeks old, Cathy put on her fancy dress and pretended to have a wedding. She marched. (Before, she had seen a wedding chapel at Lake Tahoe.)

When she was 169 weeks old, while her parents were throwing a towel, Cathy said "Father has the towel" and "Cathy throws the towel", like she was calling the game. Later Cathy told a three-sentence story about what she would do.

She wrote L, T, and I. She dialed the numbers 1 and 7.

At the pool, she played with a neighbor girl. They made tea with "frog juice", pretended that they were on hot stoves, were pulled around in the water, washed her father's hair, and used their squirt bottles. They jumped in, spun in a tube, and kicked to go forward.

### **40th Month - 3.25 Years Old**

When she was 171 weeks old, Cathy played "taking care of baby" with a doll.

When she was 172 weeks old, Cathy went to ice-skating class. She wore red size-9 skates. She could stand by herself. She pushed an upside-down bucket slowly around the ice.

When she was 173 weeks old, Cathy was calm about leaving her parents and waved good-bye happily.

### **41st Month - 3.33 Years Old**

When she was 177 weeks old, when her father read "Great Day for Up", she said the word "up" while her father read the rest. When her father read "Just Like Me" to her, she said the words "just like me" while her father read the rest. However, she could not tell which printed words were what she said.

In a picture, she saw a pile of balls and mentioned that they were like ones at the "big mouse" (a play restaurant), but different. She told her father that they were made at a factory and that they were rubber.

When her father put a plush doll and then a plush dog in the car, then put her in, and then said that he was number 3, she said the doll was first, the dog was second, and she was third. Then she repeatedly said they were 1, 2, 3.

### **42nd Month**

When she was 181 weeks old, Cathy bought a large pumpkin and carved it with her father and mother. She made a scary face on one side and a sad face on the other.

When she was 182 weeks old, at the pool, she ducked underwater to pick up a sponge. She fixed her father's hair.

### **43rd Month - 3.5 Years Old**

When she was 183 weeks old, Cathy counted books, and showed that 2 and 1 made 3.

When she was 185 weeks old, Cathy used blankets and chairs to make a tent ("cat" house) in the living room and then the bedroom. She pretended that she was a cat and crawled through.

When she was 186 weeks old, Cathy organized rocks and said they were rabbits sitting around a fire in their house.

Cathy went to a Suzuki violin class and got a violin and bow. She played "I Wish I Had a Watermelon" on it. At home, she played a guitar with the bow. She liked to apply rosin to the bow.

### **44th Month**

When she was 43 months old, Cathy placed stickers with pictures of people on them so they were pointing in the direction that they were moving, not vertically.

When she was 188 weeks old, Cathy arranged three cushions on a sofa to make a "throne for the queen". She sat on them and then slid down to the floor.

When her grandmother was late, she said "Where is that ... City girl?"

### **45th Month - 3.67 Years Old**

When she was 44 months old, Cathy started to go to library story hour and saw a puppet show featuring a crow. She stayed after to see the crow go into its suitcase.

When she was 192 weeks old, Cathy went to her grandmother's for Christmas. When eating breakfast, her grandmother's chair collapsed. When her father pointed out that this was a crash-bang Christmas for her grandmother just like it was for Santa in the "Santa's Crash-Bang Christmas" book, she laughed for a long time. She got the joke.

### **46th Month - 3.75 Years Old**

When she was 196 weeks old, Cathy made muffin batter, poured it into the cups of a muffin tray, put a paper message in the middle of every cup, and cooked muffins. Her mother was surprised to find a paper in her muffin, and then read the message with her name on it.

When she was 198 weeks old, Cathy made a strawberry two-layer birthday cake with icing in which she put food coloring. She laid out napkins, hats, and candles, and wrapped a present. Then she had a party for her little plush bunny.

When she was 199 weeks old, Cathy used a table and bedspread to make a new "cat" house in her room. She put all the dolls in it and made a wall of books. She sat in her small box in it.

While eating supper, she called a pretend person on her dog telephone and made up a conversation about coming over to her house.

When she was 200 weeks old, Cathy pretended that she was syrup on a pancake (the sofa), sliding off down to the floor. When she reached the floor, she pretended that the people were going to mop her up and so she ran. When she was tired, she jumped on the sofa and said that she was back in the bottle. When people poured her out, she pretended that teeth were going to eat her and she ran.

### **47th Month**

When she was 201 weeks old, Cathy mentioned that she wanted to give some things to the poor children on the other side of the world so she could help them.

When she was 203 weeks old, Cathy dipped her large bubble maker into bubble fluid and waved it to make large bubbles. She chased them and then watched them float far away until they hit trees.

### **48th Month**

When she was 206 weeks old, Cathy went to library story hour in the evening. She always helped put the chairs away and turn off the lights. She checked out some books from a teenage library assistant, who then pretended to steal her books, so Cathy followed her all over the library. When the assistant had to return to the desk, Cathy played outside until the girl went home, and then showed her how she had locked her books in the car. The girl pretended to follow her home.

When she was 207 weeks old, on the way to Lake Tahoe, Cathy sang a song that she made up: A little chicken crosses the road, and a truck bumps it. His mother picks him up and takes him to a doctor. The doctor fixes him, and he is as he was before.

When she was 208 weeks old, Cathy's father mentioned that his hair did not behave. She said that her father's hair was "humptee hair". (The previous week, she was read a story in which a witch's umbrella was a "humptee umbrella", since it did not behave.)

### **Her Fifth Year**

When she was 212 weeks old, Cathy used her TV camera as a microphone to announce a dancing show and then danced to children's songs on records.

At a mall, Cathy saw a can of M...M.. orange soda and said "two M's". She always asked who wrote the books read to her. She pretended to read. At the library, she read pop-up books to a small child.

### **50th Month**

When she was 213 weeks old, at home, she played with her garage and train set and made up a story about the engine, who left the tracks, went up a ramp, parked all the cars, went down the ramp and to another place, and then came back and parked cars again. It took 15 minutes to tell. Then she said "The story was finished. What shall we do next?"

When she was 214 weeks old, Cathy shelled peanuts and stepped on the shells. She smashed the peanuts, crushed grapes, and kneaded and rolled dough. She combined peanuts, grapes, and flour, to make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. She did not eat the sandwich. (She had a book read to her that described this.) Later she made number-shaped sugar cookies, and ate them.

When she was 215 weeks old, at the pool, Cathy rode on her father's shoulders while he went straight under. With no tube, she leaped back and forth at a corner in the shallow end. She pushed her hands down into the water to stay up. She jumped in and swam all over the shallow end.

Cathy went to ballet class, looked at pictures of "Sleeping Beauty", and wanted to know how the baby became 16 years old in one show. The teacher and her father explained that in the show the baby was a doll and that Princess Aurora was

just acting. She wanted to know exactly how Aurora pricked her finger on the spindle point, and who had put a bandage on it if everyone fell asleep.

#### **52nd Month - 4.25 Years Old**

When she was 51 months old, Cathy went to library story hour and wrote her name on her nametag herself. She liked to use the copy machine to copy book pages. She knew most letters, and numerals up to 7.

When she was 224 weeks old, at the pool's shallow end, she realized that she was tall enough to walk on the bottom with her mouth above water. After that, she had no worries at the pool, and jumped in, floated, and leaped many times with no tube.

When she was 225 weeks old, Cathy went on the Yosemite moonlight bus tour, saw rock climbers on a mountainside flashing their lights, and watched shooting stars in a meteor shower. She fell asleep after seeing the Moon in the Yosemite River, and slept all the way home.

When she was 226 weeks old, Cathy jumped off a bed to be caught in the air and thrown back on the bed. Her father also wrapped her in covers, swung her around, and threw her on the bed.

#### **57th Month - 4.67 Years Old**

When she was 244 weeks old, Cathy's parents put two cross-country skis together, and Cathy lay down on her tummy on them and skied down an easy hill near Lake Tahoe.

When she was 247 weeks old, Cathy went to a flea market. It rained so hard that she had to hide under a tent and wait until it was over.

#### **60th Month**

When she was 258 weeks old, for April Fool's Day, Cathy made some chocolate balls, with cotton inside, to fool her mother. The chocolate tasted good, but the cotton surprised her mother!

#### **Her Sixth Year**

When she was 272 weeks old, at the pool, Cathy ducked under water and bounced off the bottom.

#### **65th Month - 5.33 Years Old**

When she was 64 months old, at the pool's shallow end, Cathy pushed off a side and swam one stroke to her father. He pushed her back to the side, and she had to take one stroke to reach it. She could float five seconds by herself. Her father told her to take a big breath, and then he pushed her under water and pulled her up. She stayed under water for six seconds. Then her father told her to take a big breath, and then he pushed her under water through his legs and pulled her up the other side. She could see underwater.

When she was 279 weeks old, Cathy jumped rope with a neighbor girl.

When she was 280 weeks old, Cathy got her ears pierced, both at the same time. It hurt a lot at first, but by night it only hurt a little. She chose red gold earrings to keep in. Her ears were fine the next day. She cleaned them with alcohol (for one week), but did not like that because it hurt.

She slept in her own room.

Cathy went to kindergarten class from 8:45 AM to 12:05 PM. She liked her teacher and school. Each week, she learned one letter, one animal, one color, and estimating, and read three stories. Cathy made a storybook of pictures each week, and a poem. Her teacher wrote stories that she made up in a composition book.

#### **66th Month**

When she was 283 weeks old, at school, she learned about bears for B week. She slept in a sleeping bag. For homework, she drew a balloon and a beach. Cathy finished B week with a Teddy Bear picnic and ate a cookie bear.

#### **67th Month - 5.5 Years Old**

When she was 288 weeks old, Cathy had a school field trip to a pumpkin patch and got a pumpkin. In the evening at home, she carved it and put a candle in it. She made-up a Halloween party, bobbed for plums, and listened to a scary story.

When she was 290 weeks old, Cathy practiced piano and then made up a dance and drum music for "What Made a Red Man Red?" from "Peter Pan". She used chairs and blankets to make tents for it.

#### **68th Month**

When she was 67 months old, Cathy's father put big pillows in a row. She ran straight into and over them, rolling to the rug.

When she was 293 weeks old, Cathy sat in a chair and then ran away, playing escaping from school. Her father caught her, brought her back, and threw her on a big cushion beside the chair. She held onto his pockets while her father twisted and turned.

While he sang a "Mary Poppins" song, she ran around her father until she fell down.

Cathy got her hair cut for the first time in her life. She got a shoulder length cut with an undercurl, with no bangs.

When she was 294 weeks old, for homework, she drew a jacket, jump, jewel, and John for the letter J.

#### **69th Month - 5.67 Years Old**

When she was 296 weeks old, Cathy made a fire in the fireplace and pretended that she was an Indian trying to capture a Lost Boy (as in "Peter Pan").

When she was 299 weeks old, Cathy added sparkles, a waistband, and bangles to a dress for a party.

#### **70th Month - 5.75 Years Old**

When she was 69 months old, Cathy made porridge and played "Three Bears".

#### **71st Month**

When she was 306 weeks old, for homework, she made a queen, quiet, quick, and quarter for the letter Q.

When she was 307 weeks old, Cathy went to the seashore. She climbed the rocks to the highest point. She ran from waves. She rescued her cousin when the surf knocked him over and started to drag him out to sea.

Cathy opened the sofa bed in the living room and made the bed. She pretended that she was at a hotel and checked in. She ordered her food to be brought and ate her real supper in the sofa bed. She slept in the sofa bed for the night.

#### **72nd Month**

When she was 310 weeks old, Cathy went to her grandmother's in the morning and made Easter eggs by blowing them out. She colored them, put papers on them, and put crystals on them. She hid and found Easter eggs.

When she was 311 weeks old, at a multicultural show where her mother was stage manager, she counted eight hats, two each on four girls, and said one 2, one 2, one 2, and one 2 was 8.

She remembered that the "Turtle Tale" book had a fox in it and told her father to skip that part.

#### **Her Seventh Year**

When she was 313 weeks old, Cathy put streamers and balloons on her living-room mirrors. Four girls and one boy from school, and a neighborhood girl, came to her two-hour birthday party. They played "Ring around the Rosy", "London Bridge", musical chairs, and drop-the-hanky. They lit candles, sang "Happy Birthday", and blew candles out three times. They ate the cake. Each child had presents, and they opened their presents: girl doll, boy doll, clothes for dress-up, and a bowling set. Everyone played with her own toy. They went outside to hit a piñata and scoop up candy, and then went home.

When she was 316 weeks old, Cathy played at home with her cousin. She pretended that she was Tiger Lily (from "Peter Pan"), rescued him from a bear, and got an eagle feather. She let him get one, too, and made tents and pillows. Then she deciphered a secret code made by her father and rescued her cousin with it.

#### **74th Month**

When she was 73 months old, Cathy had piano class every week. She wrote the number of times that she had practiced each song. Her teacher let her choose a sticker every week. When her teacher asked her to play a song for him, she said "Please not that song" to make her teacher laugh. Then she played that she was the teacher and he was the student.

When she was 319 weeks old, Cathy bought pops from an ice-cream truck, and four girls threw them on the ground outside to make them pop. They also played follow-the-leader and guess-what-I-am.

When she was 320 weeks old, Cathy practiced for her class show all day in school. In the evening, her class and teacher gave an hour presentation of songs, hand games, and coordination exercises. She announced two of the numbers. They sang the "Alligator Song", "Song about Colors", and "Brown Bear What Do You See". Afterward, everyone collected telephone numbers.

When she was 322 weeks old, Cathy added string to make a string puppet out of a doll. Then she walked the doll a little and pretended to have a puppet theater.

### **75th Month**

When she was 323 weeks old, Cathy started summer school and learned about American Indians, Italy, France, and Germany in the mornings. They pretended to visit Africa, India, Japan, China, Philippines, and Vietnam, and had a pretend passport.

When she was 325 weeks old, Cathy went on a school field trip to a farm, with her father. She saw cows, pigs, sheep, ducks, geese, mice, rabbits, and goats. She visited the farmhouse and barn.

Cathy started ice-skating class. She could skate right and left.

### **76th Month - 6.25 Years Old**

When she was 327 weeks old, Cathy learned to play "Go Fish", and so started playing cards.

Cathy went to summer camp, with another girl, at a YMCA and was taken to its hillside park.

When she was 328 weeks old, Cathy had a scavenger hunt at camp and found candy.

When she was 330 weeks old, Cathy went to Lake Tahoe. She rode through the forest in a trailer of a bicycle. She went to a beach and fed birds grapes. She found a caterpillar. She ate lunch in the rain during a thunderstorm, saw a big hailstorm in the afternoon, and looked at a lightning storm across the lake in the evening.

### **77th Month - 6.33 Years Old**

When she was 331 weeks old, Cathy sold drinks in front of her house and then put on a dance show in the garage with her cousin.

When she was 332 weeks old, Cathy went to her elementary school to help her old teacher and new teacher get their classes ready. She took a bouquet for each and ate lunch there. She cut out teeth and made little bears. She said that she wished school started tomorrow.

At the pool, Cathy did a cartwheel dive, and a somersault dive with no hands.

Cathy went to first grade at 8:40 AM, with 27 other children. She stayed until 2:40 PM each day. She took her own lunch. She played with a girl who was in her kindergarten at recess, in the morning and afternoon. She liked her teacher and class a lot. She had three to five homework assignments each week, which she turned in on Fridays.

When she was 333 weeks old, Cathy went to ice-skating open-skating day, but stayed by the rail.

Cathy went to Yosemite. She liked going through tunnels. She slept in a tent in Upper Pines camp in Yosemite Valley in a rain. She liked to open the zippers and show her parents with the flashlight. She rode a pony along the river trail. She found raspberries next to the breakfast hall. She organized branches to make a fire and cooked lunch on a stove. She hiked to Mirror Lake and waded in it, even though it was tiny. She found a blackberry bush and ate some. She started a fire and threw needles, pinecones, and sticks on the fire. She put sticks in the fire to pretend to roast marshmallows. She placed rocks around the fire to make a chair, and then guessed what was behind it. She made a spotlight with her flashlight.

While going out of the park, her father said "Look how close to the road the rock walls are. I did not notice it coming in". She said that was because we were in the other lane coming in.

Cathy organized her pool set for guests, made a sign with the message "This was the game of pool anybody could play", and asked for \$2 when they came.

When her father said that \$1 bought 2 pops, she said that \$2 would get 4 pops.

When she was 334 weeks old, Cathy went to school and made an old woman who lived in a shoe. She practiced big and small letters. After school, she went to a class meeting, played with two girls from kindergarten class, and gave her old and new teachers a hug when she left. Her homework was spelling sentences and word games.

### **78th Month**

When she was 337 weeks old, Cathy colored a paper plate and made a mask by cutting holes in the plate with a knife and scissors and putting a hair ribbon through the holes.

### **79th Month - 6.5 Years Old**

When she was 341 weeks old, Cathy had a Halloween parade at school, and then a Halloween party. In the evening, she trick-or-treated at a few nearby houses until her cousin came, and then went around the neighborhood with him and two neighborhood girls. She went to a first-grade girl's house and trick-or-treated around there. At home, she ate candy and popcorn and passed out candy to late trick-or-treaters.

Cathy made some paper money, printed on it, stamped it, and played bank. She was the teller and pretended that there was a robber.

When she was 342 weeks old, Cathy played with a first-grade girl. They made a fire and burned plant stems. They cooked tomatoes over the gas fire and ate them. They dressed up in her old costumes. They rode bicycles and escaped police.

When she was 343 weeks old, Cathy went to a first-grade girl's church for Pioneer class. She made a craft, and said she liked it. She said that they did everything for God, but she knew that was not real. She said the teacher said that God told her how to do it, but then said that she hoped that she remembered how.

### **80th Month**

When she was 79 months old, Cathy played beauty shop at home with a first-grade girl. Then they built a tent out of wood blocks and made a sign for the front. Then they cut her father's hair and painted her father's nails.

Cathy took her fish to school.

When she was 344 weeks old, Cathy played with a first-grade boy and girl after school at a playground. They gathered flowers and climbed trees. They made a lake under a jungle gym. They pretended that wood chips were fish and the lake was lava. They helped the boy's little brother.

For her homework, she made Thanksgiving sentences: I am thankful for water. I am thankful for friends. I am thankful for my teacher. I am thankful for my kindergarten teacher. I am thankful for you. She turned them into a song and practiced it.

She went to school roller-skating and played with a first-grade boy and girl. She skated on the rug and got a pull to go fast. Then she skated around the rink with the boy's mother and the girl.

When she was 345 weeks old, Cathy tricycled to a local school park. She played spaceship and visited planets. She got gold and steered the ship after fixing the steering. She made a bedroom.

When she was 346 weeks old, Cathy went to a "Nutcracker" ballet with her first-grade class. Then she went to houses near her school with her classmates and teachers to sing carols.

When she was 347 weeks old, Cathy ate supper by candlelight with her father as waiter.

### **81st Month - 6.67 Years Old**

When she was 349 weeks old, Cathy went to her grandmother's for Christmas with her mother and father. Her father had asked her uncle to get the "Green Eggs and Ham" book for her for Christmas. After she checked her stocking (with her name on it) and opened presents, she tried to read "Green Eggs and Ham" to her father, and she could read it!

At home, she read "Green Eggs and Ham" and "Hop on Pop".

When she was 350 weeks old, Cathy sledded with some children at Strawberry Lodge. Then she traveled farther and sledded at Camp Sacramento. She sledded down head first on her tummy. She tried the steepest and longest ones by herself. She stayed for three hours, and then came back home.

She made a parachute from her "Flibber" book.

When she was 351 weeks old, Cathy went to a new ice-skating class. She skated by herself and was put in the third level out of four. She finished her lesson, and then did a turn and skated around the rink by herself.

### **82nd Month - 6.75 Years Old**

When she was 353 weeks old, Cathy played "Go", got the idea of it right away, and surrounded well, but did not see her own stones in trouble.

Cathy watched a TV show about Columbus and the Age of Discovery in the morning. She remembered there were three boats and that one did not make it back. She was curious about why there were Columbus-Day parades.

When she was 354 weeks old, Cathy had a first-grade girl come over to sleep. They played sisters going to work on the small electric motorcycle. At a play restaurant, they rode, bowled, used a hose gun, and ate pizza and ice cream. When they came home, they called their mothers twice, since they could not sleep. They tried sleeping in a tent, but it did not work. They ate a snack and played with the Barbie Motor Home. Finally, at 12:30 AM, Cathy sleepwalked from her bed to the big bed, and the girl fell asleep as she fell over onto the bed.

Cathy went to an airport to get her mother. She wrote her an "I love you" note with an airplane and a wind on it, saying "I love this wind". She layered lasagna and also made pretzels for her mother's lunch.

When she was 355 weeks old, Cathy made a special valentine heart for her teacher with lace, sprinkles, sequins, and "supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" on it.

### **83rd Month**

When she was 357 weeks old, Cathy had a first-grade girl over to sleep. In the morning, they had breakfast in bed, played ball outdoors, pretended that they were mushrooms with their umbrellas, went to a park and got ice cream, and ate a picnic lunch in the yard.

When she was 358 weeks old, Cathy took a big train to a university town and back with her class.

When she was 359 weeks old, Cathy read and re-read "Wacky Wednesday" herself. She could read about 100 words.

Cathy went to ice-skating class and could skate on one foot a few feet.

Cathy and her mother had a first-grade girl over, and they went to a horse farm and stables. They rode a 30-year old horse (not a pony) around a field for 30 minutes total, led first by a clerk and then by her mother.

Cathy brought home a book of her teacher's every day and could read half the words in them.

When she was 360 weeks old, Cathy made tickets and flyers for her first-grade and kindergarten teachers' classes ready, with paper clips.

### **84th Month**

When she was 83 months old, Cathy took flowers to her teacher for her birthday. She wore green for St. Patrick's Day.

She went to a pre-spring festival at a concert hall at a university in the evening. On a grand piano, she played a two-handed composition by Maroufi that she had memorized, and made only one mistake. She was mostly bored by the show, but liked a funny play about bunnies, a horse, and a cow.

When she was 361 weeks old, Cathy played kickball with a soccer ball with her father, and then played field hockey with the ball and golf clubs. When a first-grade girl came over, they pounded nails, and then went to the flags in front of her neighborhood, swung around the poles playing circus acrobats, and pretended that they won all the prizes of the contest. Then they pretended that they were in a strict teacher's class. They spelled, added, subtracted, and drew a picture of the Earth in space. They got everything right, of course.

When she was 363 weeks old, Cathy made chocolate cotton balls for April Fools Day. Some of her classmates liked them, and some were surprised.

Cathy went to a science museum on a bus on a school field trip, with her father for chaperone. She saw moving replicas of six dinosaurs. She liked a big kaleidoscope. She climbed on a whale in front. She played a finger game with her teacher and a first-grade girl on the way home.

Cathy went to "alpha" ice-skating class, leaving "tiny tots" and skipping pre-alpha.

When she was 364 weeks old, Cathy wrote invitations for her birthday party and cut out tails for a Pin-the-Tail-on-the-Donkey game.

A first-grade girl came over to play maids and princesses. First they cleaned the garage and rooms and set the table, and then they lived like princesses.

### **Her Eighth Year**

When she was seven years old, Cathy had a first-grade girl over, and they played mermaid at the pool with an older neighborhood girl.

Three neighborhood girls, five first-grade girls and one boy, a cousin, and two girls from far away came to the birthday party. They ran all over the house, yard, and street, playing chase. Then they opened presents and ate cake and drank. Cathy took her best friends to listen to a tape upstairs. Others played pin-the-tail-on-the-donkey. They all whacked a piñata. The neighborhood girls and the far-away girls stayed to watch "101 Dalmatians" (one of the gifts). After the movie, they played on a motorcycle, washed the car, played piano, and played dolls. Her cousin spent the night.

Cathy decorated cards and then played "Don't Break the Ice", "Go Fish", and "War" with her father.

When she was 366 weeks old, Cathy went to school and got mulberry leaves for silk worms. On a school field trip to a natural-bridge state park, she saw tide pools, limpets, hermit crabs, starfish, chiten, and clams. She walked in the tide. She lit a fire and cooked hamburgers, hot dogs, and corn on the cob. Some girls played house in the back of the white car. Then she went to a marine laboratory, played with starfish, saw an outdoor whale skeleton, and toured. Some girls played princesses and baby princess on the way home.

She read the "I Can Read" series books. This was the first time that she read on her own since "Wacky Wednesday".

When she was 367 weeks old, Cathy read 70% of the clues to a "Where's Waldo" game on a cereal box by herself.

When she was 368 weeks old, Cathy went to ice-skating class and did crossovers. She took a bad spill, but went back on the ice after her father went out to pick her up.

She went to her grandmother's for her birthday and slid down the hill. When she gave him a push, her father had to catch a branch to save himself. She tried swinging in the branch herself, several times. She helped trim bushes and trees with clippers. She fed birds and watered. She played nerf ping-pong.

When she was 369 weeks old, Cathy read a cookbook herself to cook gingerbread from scratch, and shaped it into two girls and a baby. She played take-out restaurant.

She watched her silkworms make cocoons.

Cathy took a first-grade girl to a park near the girl's house. They played that they were on a ship while a crocodile tried to get them. They put sand to mark where the crocodile could not go. They made the crocodile freeze and unfreeze.

### **86th Month**

When she was 85 months old, Cathy swam with two girls from her neighborhood. They played with a beach ball and with boats. They pretended that they were sharks and sailors. They retrieved keys from the pool bottom. Her eyes hurt from so much swimming.

When she was 370 weeks old, Cathy went to ice-skating class and learned how to twist-turn.

When she was 371 weeks old, Cathy went on a field trip to a children's museum, with her father chaperoning. She rode a bus and trolley. She made a cornhusk doll and washed clothes.

Cathy went to ice-skating class. and learned to push off with one foot.

She played with her blocks, horses, and car. She had a horse ranch and got food for the horses.

She read "Good Hunting Blue Sky" and "Berenstain Bears on the Moon" by herself.

She went to a first-grade girl's after school. They picked boysenberries and climbed an eight-foot fence to get them. She washed her berries, picked the leaves off, and shared them with her mother.

Cathy had music assembly at school. At home, after fixing a guitar string, she played guitar and small organ. She played "Puff the Magic Dragon" on the guitar with a pick while her father held the chords. She sang "Puff" and "I've Been Working on the Railroad" with her father.

When she was 372 weeks old, Cathy made chalk pictures with a first-grade girl, and they sold them on the girl's street and got \$6.

When she was 373 weeks old, at school, Cathy watched a Hawaiian dance and watched the artist in residence do a Mexican folkloric dance. The school had a luau at a park beside school. They pretended that they flew to Hawaii. They threw water balloons and used squirt bottles.

Cathy had field day at school. Her team got first place. They pretended that there was an earthquake, and she ate her lunch under a table after opening her earthquake bag.

She went to a park beside her school for the class picnic at 5 PM. They played on swings, climbed a tree, and watched baby ducks and their mother and father.

### **87th Month**

When she was 376 weeks old, Cathy went to summer school and finger-painted on a mural.

Cathy played with her cousin. They were mice for mother and papa cat. They stole the food in a trap before the cat could get them. She stole the key to escape from jail if she was caught. They swam and pretended that they were seahorses by floating on a baseball-bat tube, holding the small end in front. They went to a reservoir in a park to boat in the water, where they saw others jet-skiing.

When she was 377 weeks old, she practiced bike riding. After a push, she went first two feet, then three, then five, then ten, then 13, and then 20 feet. Then she rode a long way. Then her father just held the bike while she started by pushing the pedal down (left or right). She could go as far as she wanted straight. She turned the wheel a little and wobbled, but then got the feel of it. She went over ten bumps keeping wheels straight on and her feet on the pedals. She could then steer between the curb and bump, and ride on sidewalks. She rode around the whole complex three times.

When she and her parents came home, she saw a cat at the top of the stairs, because the garage door had been left open. Her parents chased the cat into her room, then into a bathroom, and then downstairs, where it crashed into the back screen door, knocked it out of the way, and escaped.

She rode her bicycle and learned how to start herself. She practiced turning and going to where she pointed.

She made a banana split all by herself and served it after supper. It had chocolate sauce made in a blender.

When she was 378 weeks old, Cathy took a field trip to a park beside her school to collect weeds. She made an undersea scene with them, in wax paper.

### **88th Month - 7.25 Years Old**

When she was 87 months old, Cathy went to a first-grade girl's, when the girl's mother picked them up from school. They swam to nine feet down at the girl's pool.

Cathy had a first-grade girl over to sleep. In the morning, they made two flibbers and hung them from the ceiling. They made four party baskets and put fruit in them. They invited her father in, and then each played the piano. They sang and danced while her father played guitar. They sang "Puff" and "Blowing in the Wind". They danced to each, and to "Where Have all the Flowers Gone". They danced in the garage and played the big organ. They danced in front of the garage. For lunch, they made chow mein noodles with peas, egg, corn, and carrots themselves and ate it. Then they made a gate of flibbers on the stairs and made her father use a pass to get through. They used a string to lift the gate. Her cousin came over after supper. They watched her mother and uncle go to see about a barking dog. They yelled at the dog out the window.

When she was 379 weeks old, Cathy made a pumpkin pie with a crust and decorated the top with a boy and girl. She chased the barking dog out of the neighborhood with her father, but he came right back. The animal control truck came at 9 PM and took the dog away.

She got a hair permanent and liked it.

When she was 380 weeks old, Cathy read poems by John Ciardi on her grandmother's lap.

When she was 381 weeks old, a first-grade girl came over. They built a fire and cooked strawberries in the fireplace. After the girl left, she and her mother cooked pretend hamburgers and sausages.

She dressed up and danced on TV, using a video camera. She imitated Flamenco. She put on her sunglasses and got the guitar to pretend that she was a rock singer. She sang her own words: "You could be silly" "You could be crazy" "It could be easy" "It could be difficult" while she played. It was sort of blues-rock.

When she was 382 weeks old, at home, she played hide a penny in plain sight with her father.

### **89th Month - 7.33 Years Old**

When she was 383 weeks old, Cathy used a mortar and pestle to powder sugar, and then made a slurpee herself with ice in a blender.

She set out candles in a design and sang songs in the dark.

Cathy played dance-fast-with-throwing with her father at night.

When she was 384 weeks old, a first-grade girl came over to spend the night. They played maids, dress up, and sewing. They made a bikini top, with the right shape and buttons.

She went to her grandmother's, made popsicles from grape and apple juice, made supper salad, cut some old trees, climbed the hill, clipped some twigs from tall bushes in front, fed birds, played KidPix, made her train set, read, and painted a plate to make it a mask next time.

She made marshmallow sauce and chocolate pops.

Cathy started alternative-class second grade at the same elementary school, with 30 students, mostly the same children as last year. She took a flower for each of her three teachers. She had a good day and said that her teacher was great. For homework, she had to count the doorknobs in her house, read a book or have one read for her, make a crossword puzzle, spell words, write sentences, and do a word problem about paint and rugs.

When she was 385 weeks old, Cathy rode her bike and had a bad spill. Her helmet saved her head from a bad knock, but she bit her tongue.

When she was 386 weeks old, Cathy started to read signs, boxes, and labels on things. She read "Big Bird's Copycat Day" and "Morris Tells Boris" on her own, for her book report.

Cathy went to ice-skating class (the last one in the session) and got a red ribbon.

She made rainbow sprinkle mix herself for a snack.

### **90th Month**

When she was 89 months old, a second-grade girl came over. They put up spider webs, made spiders, and put them in webs outdoors. They counted change. They thought someone was about to kidnap them, but it was a neighbor going back and forth. They swam, pretending they were mermaids. They ate in the bath. They rode bikes and played policeman and tag.

When she was 388 weeks old, Cathy carved a pumpkin with a regular face on one side and an "Addams Family" face on the other.

She played "Gingerbread Man" with her cousin, uncle, and father.

When she was 389 weeks old, a second-grade girl came over. They let ice cubes fall out of their trays onto the kitchen floor, and then threw them around. They slipped and slid on the kitchen floor, pushing off the side and spinning, screaming, and laughing.

She read part of "Morris Had a Cold".

Cathy had the same girl over. They played with a doll that the girl gave her. They got their backpacks ready and hiked around a park by themselves. Then they hiked with her father following behind. Then they did the par course, and played crocodile on a jungle gym.

When she was 390 weeks old, Cathy had open house at school. The students wrote in a journal and did a word search. She had her picture taken in her favorite flower dress by a school photographer.

Cathy went to ice-skating. She could stick one foot behind or ahead while squatting and could spin three times.

When she was 391 weeks old, a different second-grade girl came over. They pretended that they were doctors and her father was a patient who needed brain surgery. They pretended that her father was a monster, and they stole his gold, but he could never catch them. They dressed up for a ball to meet the president since they were elected.

### **91st Month - 7.5 Years Old**

When she was 90 months old, Cathy did a book report on "Mitchell Was Moving".

When she was 392 weeks old, Cathy had a second-grade girl over after school. They dressed up in costumes and ran a costume shop. It served a customer and then was robbed, so they played detective. They had a party, and their rings were stolen.

Cathy and a different second-grade girl went to a park and gathered flowers and leaves to start a flower shop. At home, they made bouquets and wrapped them.

When she was 393 weeks old, after school, she and another second-grade girl went to the school playground. They pretended that they were mice in a spaceship, and then two kittens in exercise class. They could lift big loads with their pinkie, run fast, and climb. They stopped to see their teacher and the haunted house being made in a room. At home, they did gymnastics outside on the pole after supper. They tied blue ribbons on a tree and post to make blue (instead of red) ribbon week. They made a seat belt for the back of the big car out of ribbon on the way back to the girl's house.

Cathy took a fourth second-grade girl to a park to work on a water system that they had made before. They swung in tires and rings and played tag. At home, they made a hotel for her father to check into. They had a desk, slide show, and room ready.

When she was 394 weeks old, Cathy made a swing over grass between a tree and a stop sign across from her house. She used a sweater and towel on the rope for a swing seat. She jumped off and flew through the air, trying many ways.

Cathy did book reports on "Good Morning", "Owl Moon", and "Cats".

Cathy played with a second-grade girl after school in the kindergarten playground. They watched a second-grade girl get on a horse and ride away with her mother. They went to a park to play crocodile, but they saw two boys trying to kill and bury a caterpillar. Cathy said they were cruel, and asked her father to get the caterpillar. Then they left the park and made a garden for the caterpillar at home.

The next day, Cathy took the caterpillar to school on a new bed of grass. She let it go outside the schoolyard.

When she was 395 weeks old, another second-grade girl came over. They set up the back yard for musical chairs and games. Three more second-grade girls came over. They played musical chairs, danced to "Silly Songs", and played tag. Then they made cookies and cakes, ate ice cream and pound cake, and drank. They had a birthday party, sang, and blew out candles.

### **92nd Month**

When she was 396 weeks old, a different second-grade girl came over, and Cathy went to ice-skating class while the girl built a snowman and slid in a snow pile, which Cathy played in after skating class.

At school, she made a turkey with tail feathers about what she was thankful for.

When she was 387 weeks old, Cathy made a turkey with a cookie tail and candy-corn beak and feet.

She went to her grandmother's house; made a gingerbread house from a kit, using icing to make the walls and roof stick together; decorated it with a candy-cane heart, spicettes, jellybeans, and licorice; and put fences, tress, Santa, and a sleigh on or around it.

When she was 398 weeks old, Cathy had a second-grade girl over after school. They played making a dance and show with Santa and angels, for a pretend five-year-old girl who did not believe in them.

When she was 399 weeks old, Cathy went to school in the evening to carol at neighboring houses. They had cocoa at the last one, which had fancy Christmas decorations. She had a drink in the teacher's lounge after that.

### **93rd Month - 7.67 Years Old**

When she was 401 weeks old, Cathy's grandmother came for a sleep over. She made a car from cardboard, paint, and paper plates, which she had seen on "Barney".

She went to her grandmother's and played with a spinning wheel. She got the rhythm of the treadle with her feet and hand. She rolled up yarn on a spool and then unwound it, about 25 times. She sewed cloth with filling inside to make filler for a quilt and sewed the quilt front to its back.

Cathy had a second-grade girl over. They made a UNICEF puzzle of 200 pieces.

When she was 402 weeks old, Cathy went to her grandmother's to put away Christmas stuff, climbed a hill, played KidPix twice, and cut out and colored dolls. She continued making a quilt by cutting cloth and putting in pins.

She read stories of ballets while she ate pound cake and popsicles that she made.

When she was 403 weeks old, at home, Cathy read "Min-Yo and the Moon Dragon" and "Bearhead".

Cathy went to a park with a second-grade girl. They played Captain Hook and the Lost Girls (from "Peter Pan"). They spun too much on a tire swing.

### **94th Month - 7.75 Years Old**

When she was 405 weeks old, Cathy went to her traditional violin teacher's recital, played "Sunrise", and only made a few mistakes. She had memorized it and did not use any music, unlike the rest of the students.

When she was 407 weeks old, Cathy went to a theater to sing and dance "Chi Chi Chalo", "Wyula", "Kuna Lembe", "Mbonge", and "Mother Eleni", on stage for 30 minutes. At the end of the show was Carnival. They did limbo and danced to "All Night Party (Are You Hot?)".

She went to her grandmother's and used a big sewing machine by hand to make the doll quilt that she had basted before. She read "Owl at Home" and "I Met a Man".

When she was 408 weeks old, Cathy made a Valentine heart with four layers for her mother.

### **95th Month**

When she was 410 weeks old, Cathy had a second-grade girl over. They had a garage sale of books, and collected \$2 from the neighbor's baby and another neighbor. They played maids and washed clothes.

When she was 411 weeks old, Cathy made a leprechaun trap with a mousetrap and took it to school.

### **96th Month**

When she was 413 weeks old, Cathy got her hair permed with extra curl.

Cathy played dominoes and made a line, a J, a Q, and a heart, and then knocked them down.

When she was 414 weeks old, Cathy picked up a second-grade girl to go to school roller-skating. She could skate by herself and skated with the girl. She cleaned her skates in a machine.

Cathy went to a park for a nature hike with her class. She tested a warm springs and learned about local flora and fauna. She was glad that she had long socks.

When she was 415 weeks old, Cathy made cotton chocolates to take to school for April Fools, but a second-grade girl told the teacher what it was.

Cathy did science experiments before breakfast. She made walls and tested their strength.

When she was 417 weeks old, Cathy had her cousin and grandmother over for her family birthday party. She got a seven-foot tent and walkie-talkie. She played in the tent all evening and slept in it.

### **Her Ninth Year**

When she was eight years old, Cathy had seven second-grade girls over for her birthday party. It rained, so they played in the tent, whacked a cake piñata, played musical chairs and farmer in the dell, and had story-telling time. They played with her gifts: a Barbie pool, "Aladdin" tape and book, "Aladdin"-character set, and plush cat. Two girls stayed to eat

turkey burger, light a fire, and sleep in the tent, but one girl went home at 11:30 PM since she was too nervous (it was her first time).

When she was 419 weeks old, Cathy went to open house at her school. She visited her teacher's class and two other classes. She did experiments at a science fair. She liked the volcano, bottles with cork, shells and rocks, crystal making, and electric game and magnets. She played Geo-Safari with a girl.

Cathy took a second-grade girl (whose parents could not come) to school spring carnival, but went around with another second-grade girl, while the girl went with her father. They played ring toss, bowling ball, baseball spin, golf, pencil pull, fish, poster pitch, roll ball, and frog flips. They fed and patted goats, sheep, pot-bellied pig, ducks, and rabbits. She went around with a third second-grade girl after the second went home. She won a blue-poodle prize.

Cathy picked up a second-grade girl, and they ate at a Chinese restaurant and then walked home by themselves. Then they played riding, police, and judge with a nine-year-old neighborhood girl.

Cathy played with two second-grade girls after school. They played writing resumes, having interviews, running a toy store, grabbing a basket, and tag. They climbed plum trees looking for raw plums. One girl found an empty nest and filled it with plums.

When she was 421 weeks old, Cathy got a fancy doll with the \$25 that she had saved from her allowance, which was \$5 a week. She made it cry tears and wet, and played with it all evening.

Cathy took two second-grade girls to a children's hands-on crafts festival. They made a creature from space, danced Mexican folk dances in long dresses, played in oak trees, made rubber stamps, made cornhusk dolls, made clay masks, made tin plates, played instruments, and painted a mural.

### **98th Month**

When she was 97 months old, at the pool, Cathy fetched four rings at once from the bottom.

When she was 423 weeks old, Cathy had a field trip to a children's zoo. Her father helped supervise. She saw and fed animals. She rode ladybugs, a dragon, and a carousel. She saw a puppet show. She tried a maze and merry-go-round.

Cathy made necklaces with a girl that slept over. They made a lemonade stand and ate breakfast outside. They sold lemonade and pound cake, and made \$1.

She read "Highlights for Children" while she ate an ice cream cone.

When she was 424 weeks old, Cathy had another second-grade girl over after school. They played that a wolf shook the tent and slid under it, to get campers.

Cathy had field day at school. She came in second in a run around school and third in a three-legged race. She did class sports.

### **99th Month**

When she was 428 weeks old, Cathy went to a festival with a second-grade girl. They made clay figures, got portraits, and had their faces painted. They liked the music and dance. They saw "Hair". They watched fireworks.

### **100th Month - 8.25 Years Old**

When she was 433 weeks old, Cathy and her cousin helped finish a new irrigation system for the backyard by filling in dirt. They tested if it worked. They cut bushes and a willow tree. They raked leaves and bagged them.

Cathy got boards for a deck at a hardware store with her father. She and a visiting girl laid them out on 2x4's, ready to nail. They went upstairs to make a secret clubhouse in her closet. They put in pillows, magazines and books, and a lamp. When the holes were ready for nails, they nailed the big porch by themselves. They went back to the clubhouse after finishing nailing.

When she was 434 weeks old, Cathy read "Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle's Magic" out loud to get rid of numbness in her mouth after she saw a dentist.

Cathy had a second-grade girl over to help dig holes for flowers, plant, and water. After that, they swam with the girl's boogie boards and fell off them many ways.

### **101st Month - 8.33 Years Old**

When she was 100 months old, at the pool, Cathy and her cousin rode inflatable baseball bats and pretended to be seahorses.

When she was 435 weeks old, Cathy read a "Babysitters" series book.

When she was 436 weeks old, Cathy and a second-grade girl went to a library to get magic books. They read about it and made a potion.

When she started third grade, Cathy got flowers for her four teachers and gave them to them. Five minutes later, the principal took her to a man teacher's third-grade class. Five girls from her second-grade class were in this third grade. She had a good day.

### **102nd Month**

When she was 440 weeks old, Cathy got three three-grade girls and had a pool party. They drew with water-soluble chalk, popped poppers, ate a cake for one's 8th birthday, and opened presents. They had pizza and swam. After that, they went to the birthday girl's house to swim and have more pizza.

She and her cousin made a clay bowl for her mother and painted it.

When she was 441 weeks old, Cathy went to a park beside her school and played with four third-grade girls. They collected tadpoles and fish from a pond. They tried to catch fish in a pond. She fell in, but it was not cold, and she had no problem drying off.

Cathy had a third-grade girl over. They made a city with boxes, bottles, and cartons, on taped sheets of paper. They took many photographs of it.

When she was 442 weeks old, Cathy was in a play at school. She was a bus passenger meeting whales.

Cathy read the comics section in a newspaper.

When she was 443 weeks old, Cathy had a different third-grade girl over. They took a walk around the circle, found some boards, and made a scarecrow with shirt, gloves, hat, and scarf.

### **103rd Month - 8.5 Years Old**

When she was 445 weeks old, Cathy played at a park beside her school with third-grade girls. They played servant and princess in a castle.

Cathy and two third-grade girls went to a school barbecue. They made spin art, painted pumpkins, played marble relay and three-legged race, and played "Simon Says" and "Marco Polo".

When she was 446 weeks old, Cathy got a reply from North Pole AL to the letter that she sent to Santa three weeks ago.

When she was 447 weeks old, Cathy and a third-grade girl went to a park to play shark vs. mermaids.

Cathy had a third-grade girl over. They went to a fabric store and selected a dress pattern and cloth. They came home and cut it out, before the girl had to go home. She and her mother sewed it and slid in elastic.

Cathy stayed at a park beside her school after school with a third-grade girl. She made a refrigerator for the slurpees out of fallen branches, then made a bed and decorations, and then swept a porch. She called it the Nature Club.

### **104th Month**

When she was 448 weeks old, Cathy made a bowl of ice to eat while she listened to the story "Matilda", which she liked.

Cathy and a third-grade girl pretended that they were a family living next to her father that got all the groceries and stole the gold. They pretended that they were world famous gymnasts, bus workers, and helpers of the homeless.

Cathy and a different third-grade girl made a lean-to out of branches and sat in it with an umbrella as a shield from wind. They got in the back of the station wagon with the umbrella blocking the wind from the window.

When she was 449 weeks old, Cathy had another third-grade girl over to get some wood at a hardware store and build two dressed-up ladies for Christmas with wood, blankets, cloths, and bracelets.

Cathy took a third-grade girl bowling. They bowled with bumpers (78) and played air hockey.

When she was 450 weeks old, Cathy played freeze-tag for a short while after school with two third-grade girls.

She went to a third-grade girl's house to get a sweater, but no one was home, so they made a pile of leaves to jump in.

She had read and liked the four "Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle" books, and read and liked almost all books of the "PeeWee Scouts" series (and planned to read them all).

When she was 451 weeks old, Cathy and a third-grade girl went caroling with her school at nearby houses, finishing with a fancy snack and decorations at one of the houses.

Cathy got a care note worth five care notes from her teacher.

When she was 452 weeks old, Cathy made a paper Christmas tree around a soda bottle, with paper lights and balls, for her grandmother.

### **105th Month - 8.67 Years Old**

When she was 104 months old, at her grandmother's, Cathy made a gingerbread house and decorated its roof, front, and grounds with jellybeans, spicettes, licorice, and candy canes. She decorated the bushes in front of her grandmother's house with angels and doves.

When she was 454 weeks old, Cathy read "Pee Wee Scouts" books, and then played board games with her mother. She had a soda in a champagne glass at 11 PM to celebrate New Year's Eve.

When she was 456 weeks old, Cathy played with four third-grade girls at school, making a pretend soup and emergency shelter.

She and two third-grade girls went to school roller-skating. She tried to snag an animal from a machine, but only one girl got one.

She and a third-grade girl packed a picnic lunch and went to a park. They walked by a creek, played in playgrounds, ate lunch, and then went to ride horses at a ranch beside the park. They rode on the same horses around a stable area for 30 minutes total. Then they went back to the park, walked beside the lower creek, and then walked to hot springs, where they picked and beat bulrushes to make wool.

### **106th Month - 8.75 Years Old**

When she was 457 weeks old, for homework, Cathy did times tables for 2, 3, and 4.

She asked her father about her essay about flying fish, so her father told her about Who, What, Where, When, Why, and How.

When she was 459 weeks old, Cathy took a third-grade girl to play tennis, pick berries, find pine needles, pull off pine needles, gather leaves and seedpods, pick flowers, find a bird's nest, and make a cottage, each under a different pine tree. They decorated tree needles with flowers, made beds with outlines of leaves or pods and pillows of pine needles, made a shower using a flower, and made a fireplace with sticks and flowers for fire color.

She got a fishing pole and fake food and went to a park to fish. She cast her line in many times and reeled it in, but no fish. She lost her float, watched it float across lake, and then picked it up.

### **108th Month**

When she was 469 weeks old, Cathy had her ninth birthday party at a park beside a golf course, with nine third-grade girls, and played pom-poms and crocodile, opened presents, and ate Cinderella cake.

### **Her Tenth Year**

#### **110th Month**

When she was 477 weeks old, Cathy went to last day of school. She gave a rose to her teacher, and flower bunches to her three previous teachers.

#### **111th Month**

When she was 480 weeks old, Cathy's father rented an apartment near her school, while her mother stayed at the house on the circle, and from then on Cathy split time between parents.

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