

---

# THE BASICS CAREGIVER'S PROMISE

BY RONALD FERGUSON

---

With my **heart** I will love you

And shield you from stress.

With my **mouth** I will speak what I feel.

With soft words and sweet songs every time I behold you

I'll show you that my love is real.

With my **fingers** I'll point at the objects I name

And I'll count them in groups to compare.

With my **feet** I will take you outdoors to explore

While we play and enjoy the fresh air.

With my **eyes** I will read as I show you the world

Through bright pictures and stories in books.

These are ways to make sure that your brain is prepared

For successes wherever you look.

This my promise I make from the day of your birth

That these *Basics* I'll faithfully do.

For my job is to help you grow happy and smart

Starting now when your life is brand new.

You will learn that your life is an artwork.

And that you are the artist in charge.

But before you decide what to do with your life

Listen now

To the beat

Of my heart.

