



”SEASHELL”

By Mary Madden

You are probably wondering why you have been given a seashell.
It is a gift to help reflect on another gift you are about to receive- your students.
Take a few minutes to consider what the shell can tell you about them...

Maybe your shell is fragile, delicate, and easily broken.
So are your students. Handle them kindly and with care.

Maybe your shell looks beautiful.
Every student in your class has a special beauty.
Discover it and help others to notice and appreciate it, too.

Maybe you noticed that your shell has pieces chipped away or broken off.
Some students have faced difficult experiences that have chipped away positive
self-image and broken their spirit.
Help to rebuild their self-image and rekindle their enthusiasm.

The shell you have in your hand is unique.
It was carried to shore by the ocean just for you.
What will you do with it now that it is your?
Every student in your classroom this year is unique, too.
Each one is in your hands now.
What will you do with your students now that they are yours?

Just a few thoughts to reflect on as a new and exciting year begins.
Have a GREAT school year!!!