

## **Suggested Naming Ceremony Readings**

### **A baby**

A baby will make love stronger  
Days shorter,  
Nights longer,  
Bankroll smaller,  
Clothes shabbier,  
The past forgotten,  
And the future worth living for.

Author Unknown

### **A Mother's Wish**

I hope my child looks back on today  
And sees a mother who had time to play.  
There will be years for cleaning and cooking,  
But children grow up when you're not looking.  
Tomorrow I'll do all the chores you can mention  
But today, my baby needs time and attention.  
So settle down cobwebs; dust go to sleep,  
I'm cuddling my baby, and babies don't keep.

Anon

### **Footprints**

"Walk a little slower Daddy" said a child so small,  
"I'm following in your footsteps and I don't want to fall.  
Sometimes your steps are very fast,  
Sometimes they're hard to see;  
So walk a little slower Daddy,  
For you are leading me.  
Someday when I'm all grown up,  
You're what I want to be;  
Then I will have a little child  
Who'll want to follow me.  
And I would want to lead just right,  
And know that I was true;  
So walk a little slower Daddy,  
For I must follow you.

Anon

---

### **A poem for parents**

There are little eyes upon you,  
And they are watching night and day;  
There are little ears that quickly  
Take in every word you say.

There are little hands all eager  
To do everything you do;  
And a little boy who's dreaming  
Of the day he'll be like you.

You're the little fellow's idol;  
You're the wisest of the wise;  
In his little mind, about you  
No suspicions ever rise.

He believes in you devotedly,  
Holds that all you say and do,  
He will say and do in your way  
When he's grown up like you.

There's a wide-eyed little fellow  
Who believes you're always right;  
And his ears are always open,  
And he watches day and night.

You are setting an example  
Every day in all you do;  
For the little boy who's waiting  
To grow up to be just like you.

Author Unknown

### **Wishes**

Wishing you many smiles and happy times to come.  
May life's adventures be exciting and sweet  
Filled with love from the friends that you'll meet  
You'll soon grow up for time does fly  
So cherish each moment as it goes by  
From crawling and walking,  
To toddling and talking  
There's no knowing what you'll do next  
There's a threshold to cross and a wide open door  
And a wonderful world for you to explore  
Sleep with the moonbeams and play in the sun  
Let your life be a long one and filled with fun  
May today and tomorrow and all days hereafter  
Be days that are happy and filled with your laughter.

Anon

---

## Family

A family is a place to cry, laugh and vent frustrations,  
To ask for help, tease and yell,  
To be touched and hugged and smiled at.

A family is people who care when you are sad,  
Who love you no matter what and share your triumphs.  
Who don't expect you to be perfect,  
Just growing with honesty, in your own direction.

Family is a circle  
Where we learn to like ourselves  
Where we learn to make good decisions, and think before we do.  
Where we learn integrity and table manners,  
And respect for other people.  
Where we are special, and share ideas.  
Where we listen and are listened to.  
Where we learn the rules of life  
To prepare ourselves for the world

The world is a place where anything can happen,  
If we grow up in a loving family, we are ready for the world.

Anon

## Night night mummy - See you later

At seven o'clock every evening, my Mum tucks me up in my bed.  
I'm nice and snug in my 'jamas, beside me my faithful old Ted.  
I always nod off very quickly – before Mum has turned out the light,  
But when it's her bedtime much later, well then I wake up for the night.

For there's no time of day I like better, than the hours between midnight and three,  
For Mum hasn't got any housework and can give her attention to me.  
And when I start yelling and shouting, Mum knows that she has to be quick  
For the night when she leaves me to grizzle, is the night I decide to be sick.

But Mum can't mind in the slightest, at being my playmate 'til two –  
She'd normally spend this time sleeping, for she's nothing much better to do.  
Some nights she mixes a cocktail, from the bottles she keeps on the shelf,  
Which sometimes she gives me to swallow – and sometimes she gulps down herself!

And if in the morning I'm sleepy, and feel in the need of a perk,  
I can have forty winks in my pushchair, while Mummy gets on with her work.  
But nothing's as nice as the night time. And nothing can equal the pleasure  
Of finding it's four in the morning and being Mum's wide-awake treasure!

Anon

---

**If**

If you can keep your head when all about you  
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,  
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,  
But make allowance for their doubting too;

If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,  
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,  
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,  
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream - and not make dreams your master;  
If you can think - and not make thoughts your aim;  
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster  
And treat those two impostors just the same;

If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken  
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,  
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,  
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools.

If you can make one heap of all your winnings  
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,  
And lose, and start again at your beginnings  
And never breathe a word about your loss;

If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew  
To serve your turn long after they are gone,  
And so hold on when there is nothing in you  
Except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,  
Or walk with Kings - nor lose the common touch,  
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,  
If all men count with you, but none too much;

If you can fill the unforgiving minute  
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,  
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,  
And - which is more - you'll be a Man, my son!

Rudyard Kipling

---

**I want you to be happy**

I want you to be happy.

I want you to fill your heart with feelings of wonder and to be full of courage and hope.

I want you to have the type of friendship that is a treasure - and the kind of love that is beautiful forever.

I wish you contentment: the sweet, quiet, inner kind that comes around and never goes away.

I want you to have hopes and have them all come true.

I want you to have a real understanding of how unique and rare you truly are.

I want to remind you that the sun may disappear for a while, but it never forgets to shine.

May the words you listen to say the things you need to hear.

And may a cheerful face lovingly look back at you when you happen to glance in your mirror.

I wish you the insight to see your inner and outer beauty.

I wish you sweet dreams.

I want you to have times when you feel like singing and dancing and laughing out loud.

I want you to be able to make your good times better and your hard times easier to handle.

I wish I could find a way to tell you - in untold ways - how important you are to me.

Of all the things I'll be wishing for, wherever you are and whatever I may do, there will never be a day in my life when I won't be wishing for the best... for you.

Anon

---

### **Through baby's eyes**

I didn't expect a brass band,  
With welcome mat unfurled.  
To be on hand when I arrived,  
In this confusing world.  
Nor did I expect a doctor;  
To hold me by the feet,  
Then quickly turn me upside down,  
And spank me on the seat.  
At first I wasn't quite prepared,  
For this enormous place,  
Nor for the funny characters,  
That I would have to face.  
But soon I learned to get my way,  
By looking sweet and shy,  
And when I wanted to be held,  
To make a fuss and cry.  
I've found it really doesn't take,  
Much difficulty or guile.  
To wrap them round my finger;  
All I need to do is smile.

### **Anon**

#### **Parent's Wish**

We wish you a childhood full of fun and games  
And we wish you memories that have little pain.  
We wish you to learn by making mistakes.  
We wish you to love and never to hate.  
We wish you the strength to make up your own mind  
But we wish that your heart will be gentle and kind.

We wish you to reach out when a friend needs a hand  
And we wish you to help him face life's demand.  
We wish your life brings you some ups and some downs.  
But we wish you will smile much more than you'll frown.  
We wish you will taste life's 'Sweet smell of success'.  
Only to find no replacement for true love and happiness.

We wish life will teach you to stand on your own.  
But we wish you to know that you're never alone.  
We wish you success in all that you do.  
And we hope that all your dreams will come true.  
But the one thing above and beyond all of this  
Is the love that is felt by your 'Parents' Wish'

Anon

---