

# Linda's Little Laboratory Childcare

## Children Need to Get Dirty

While the babysitter may rock and knit  
in front of the television kids get to sit.  
Their shoes are tied, their shirts tucked in  
they're picture ready, neat as a pin.  
They do not run, they're not let out  
to jump and dance and scream and shout.  
These parents never have to worry about stains,  
babysitters don't take those extra pains.

Washable markers can turn a child's tongue blue  
And it's hard to get gak off a Striderite shoe.  
Playdough isn't easy to pick out of fingernails,  
Little hands get slimy touching frogs and snails.  
Children learn by touching and that involves some mess.  
Should adults, for their convenience, provide much less?  
Let's pay attention to Jean Piaget,  
And help our children learn through play!  
Paint on a new blouse? Sand in the hair?  
Welcome to high quality childcare!

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