

School children require patience, kindness, and the best of care, and when these are given, the results are so far-reaching that they cannot be measured in figures.

The work of the school nurse is mainly along preventive lines, yet at times she is most helpful in rendering first aid, which under the circumstances is most opportune.

Children being most susceptible to sense impressions, a school health nurse must always remember that orderliness, tidiness and cleanliness cannot be taught children by pictures, lectures and talks, but must be visualized—an untidy nurse and a disorderly room are antagonistic to the best results.

The sight of a clean white apron, a neat table laid out with an orderly equipment does more to impress children with what it means to be neat and cleanly than an instructions or scolding. The sight of a tooth brush and the demonstration of how to use it does more to impress a child's mind with the beauty of clean teeth than do all the handbills printed.

Putting the child's body in good working order is only a means toward an end. A clean healthy body goes with a clean healthy mind. The development of the body accompanies the development of the child's mind.

In the school the nurse is brought into contact with the strong, active healthy little bodies with normal instincts and needs, and must never fail to meet the demands made upon her for right guidance and proper direction.

Children are quick to see and feel what lies behind instructions. Right relations must be established early. In instructing children as to physical defects, it is not only very, very wrong, but improper as well, to scold either parent or child for such conditions.

What is in the mind of the child when he hears the school nurse admonishing him for not wearing his glasses, or (when it interferes with play) for throwing away a neat bandage on a finger? Advise him about the use of these. Do it again and again. In fact, the plan with children, like other pets, is reiteration, and reiteration *without irritation*.

Instruction to be helpful must never take the form of correction or scolding. It may not always mean gentleness and undue softness, but many weapons must be used in fighting ignorance.

The school nurse is concerned in helping people help themselves, and the making of self-respecting citizens is indeed a large part of this work. School children must never be made to feel that they are objects of charity.

The school health nurse must work out her own health code, and it must be an elevating one at all times.