

Emily Infante—AmeriCorps Fall 2002

Irving Y-Care

In the beginning I thought this was going to be very difficult, waking up at five thirty every weekday morning, to go in and work with a bunch of wild grade school kids. Little did I know that it would be the best experience of my life.

Each and every day, the children made me feel wanted and accepted as a teacher. I was a role model to them. There was this one special girl that had a hard time letting go of her mom, and thanks to my help, by the end of a couple of weeks she was no longer as gloomy when her parents dropped her off. The kids had no idea how they made it so bearable to wake up that early and go back in the middle of the afternoon to take care of them.



Little things, like the artwork the kids gave me, brightened each and every day I was there. They gave it to me because they liked me and they liked coloring with me. The pictures also gave me a lot to remember, like how much the kids enjoyed me being there. I had no idea that the kids needed role models so bad, but as soon as I started I could see how much they did need me. They were incredible kids, with attitudes that are amazing. They really taught me how to take life day by day.

This is one piece
of artwork that
was given to me.



AmeriCorps has been such a learning experience for me. AmeriCorps is a great experience and I would recommend it to anybody that is eager, outgoing, and open minded.