

What child do you see?

By Margaret Mykietyshyn

We've begun

To consider new meaning

New ways of being

Not throwing out the old

But welcoming the new

And anticipating its hold

Deep at the root of this exploration

Is an inspiration

The child! What child?

Is it the child that we think we know?

Precious, innocent, anxious to have their
say

Full of uninhibited energy

Needing us to show the way.

Or is it the child who we may not yet
know?

Competent, capable, ready to participate

Eager with genuine curiosity

Using multiple languages to communicate.

Do we know this child?

Philosopher, participant, contributor in
democracy

Willing to take responsibility

A caring member of our community.

We've begun

To see a different child

Our image has been reconciled

Not forgetting the child we knew

But accepting new potential

And broadening our view

Illuminated by a re-conception

We have an enlightened impression

What child?

The child as citizen.

*Inspired by and dedicated to Adine
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Participation and Possibilities: An Early
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