When You Thought I Wasn’t Looking
By: Mary Rita Schilke Korzan

When you thought I wasn’t looking,
You displayed my first report,
And I wanted to do another.

When you thought I wasn’t looking,
You fed a stray cat,
And I thought it was good to be kind to animals.

When you thought I wasn’t looking,
You gave me a sticker,
And I knew that little things were special things.

When you thought I wasn’t looking,
You put your arm around me,
And I felt loved.

When you thought I wasn’t looking,
I saw tears come from your eyes,
And I learned that sometimes things hurt – but that it’s all right to cry.

When you thought I wasn’t looking,
You smiled,
And it made me want to look that pretty too.

When you thought I wasn’t looking,
You cared,
And I wanted to be everything I could be.

When you thought I wasn’t looking –
I looked...and
Wanted to say Thanks for all those things you did when you thought I wasn’t looking.
Activity:

Discussion Questions:
1. Why would the author use repetition with the phrase “When you thought I wasn’t looking”?
2. Who is “you” in this poem? How do you know? (Inferencing and context clues)

Apply:
Students will write their own phrase poem with starting with the phrase “When you thought I wasn’t looking” just like the author did. The “you” in their poem can be their mom, dad, or guardian. They should include lessons that have been taught to them and their goal would be write at least five stanzas.