

## ***Ode to Mothers***

The most important thing a father can do for his children  
is to love their mother.

Henry Ward Beecher (1813-1887) • American clergyman

Men are what their mothers made them.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882) • American essayist and poet

Youth fades; love droops; the leaves of friendship fall;  
A mother's secret hope outlives them all.

Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894) • American man of letters

All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel mother.

Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865) • 16th US president

My mother had a slender, small body, but a large heart  
– a heart so large that everybody's joys found  
welcome in it, and hospitable accommodation.

Mark Twain (1835-1910) • American writer

Biology is the least  
of what makes someone a mother.

Oprah Winfrey (1954-) • American celebrity

