

## Mamma Said

Lyrics & Music by: Mary E. Costello © 1996

(Written in memory of my Social Work professor and mentor, Mary J. Flynn, MSW)

In a world unkind at times  
It's easy to fit in  
And think of no one's needs but mine  
But that's when I begin

To think back on those wisest words  
That I have ever heard  
And try to live my life again  
The way I've always learned

Mamma was a kind woman  
As strong as they come  
Her words are always here with me  
Like her garden's warmed with sun

I wish she were still here with me  
It's an empty, aching need  
But when all's been said and done  
Her words are true as they could be

### Chorus:

Oh, Mamma said  
Before you move to criticize, be sure that you wait  
Before you plan to invest, be wise... investigate  
Before you hope to retire, be sure that you've saved  
Before you act in your desire, review the vows you've made  
Before you kneel down to pray, be sure that you forgive  
And before the time that you die, be sure...that you give

### Musical Bridge

Oh.....  
In that last letter  
Mamma ever.....  
Ever wrote to me...

### Chorus:

Oh, Mamma said  
Before you move to criticize, be sure that you wait  
Before you act in your desire, review the vows you've made  
Before you kneel down to pray, be sure that you forgive  
And before the time that you die, be sure...that you give

That you give

In that last letter...  
Mamma ever wrote to me...  
Oh...Mamma said...