Who is a resource parent? A resource parent cares for children/youth who are not in their custody, and have entered the foster care system. Resource parents are willing and able to provide care and nurturing, act in the best interests of the children, and are able to work with children who have significant emotional and behavioral needs. Resource parents work with the birth parents as well as the agency that supervises their home. Resource parents are supportive of efforts to return the child home, if reunification with the birth parents is the child's permanency plan. Reunification with the birth parents is initially the primary goal for a child that is in placement.