Making a Difference

**This was taken from Curtis and Associates Workshop curriculum.**

One day a man was walking along the seashore. He noticed that during the night many seashells and starfish had washed up on the shore. Thoroughly enjoying the morning sun and cool sea air, the man strolled for miles along the sand.

Far off in the distance, he saw a small figure dancing. The man was joyous that someone was celebrating life in such a grand and uninhibited manner. As he drew closer, however, it became apparent that perhaps the figure was not dancing, but repeatedly performing some ritual.

Approaching the small figure, the man noticed it was a small child. The girl was methodically picking up starfish from the shore and tossing them back into the surf. The man paused for a moment, puzzled, then asked, “Why are you throwing those starfish?”

“If I leave these starfish on the beach”, she replied, the sun will dry them and they will die. So I’m throwing them back into the ocean because I want them to live.”

The man was pensive for an instant, impressed with the child’s thoughtfulness. Then he motioned up and down the miles of the beach and said, “There must be millions of starfish along here! How can you possibly expect to make a difference?”

The young girl pondered the man’s words for a moment, then she slowly leaned over, reached down, and carefully picked up another starfish from the sand. Arching back, she tossed the starfish gently into the surf.

She turned to the man and smiled. “You may be right”, she said, “but I made a difference for that one!”

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Pen Pals Wanted

More than 10,000 young people and adults in the former Soviet Union would like to be pen pals with American students.

The pen pals range in age from 8-9 years to adults in their 40’s and 50’s. The majority of the pen pals are in their teens or college age. Many are students of U.S. Peace Corps volunteers who are serving as English teachers, and about 90 percent can correspond in English.

Pen pals are matched on the basis of age, gender, and common language, and correspond by postal mail only, not e-mail. Right now, very few secondary schools in the former Soviet Union are connected to the Internet and computers in the home are rare. If you’re interested in participating in this pen pal program, please talk to Kathy or Linda in the Resource Center.

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Parents’ Internet Guide Online

The Department’s new Parents’ Guide to the Internet is available free at http://www.ed.gov/ The guide helps parents regardless of technical know-how on the online world as an important educational tool. It suggests how parents can allow children to tap the Internet while safeguarding them from potential hazards.

**This was taken from the Ohio Association for Adult and Continuing Education (OAACE) NEWS and VIEWS.**

Did You Know?????

♦ Coca-Cola was originally green?

♦ Each day more money is printed for the game Monopoly than for the U.S. Treasury?
Optional GED Testing

Site: For those people who can not take the GED test on the scheduled days at the Coshocton High School, the

Licking County JVS Testing Dates

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Following is a list of dates through December 1998 when the GED test is given at Licking Co. Joint Vocational School in Newark, OH. Anybody needing any additional to them. These will be taken with the students when they leave CORC as a reminder of all that they have done.

GREAT WORK, Kathy and Linda!!!

The Football Game

There was a skinny young boy who loved football with all his heart. Practice after practice, he eagerly gave everything he had. But being half the size of the boys, he got absolutely nowhere.

At the games this hopeful athlete sat on the bench and hardly ever played. This teenager lived alone with his father, and the two of them had a very special relationship. Even though the son was always on the bench, his father was always in the stands cheering. He never missed a game. This young man was still the smallest of the class when he entered high school. But his father continued to encourage him but also made it very clear that he did not have to play football if he didn’t want to. But the young man loved football and decided to hang in there. He was determined to try, his best at every practice, and perhaps he’d get to play when he became a senior.

All through high school he never missed a practice nor a game but remained a bench-warmer all four years. His faithful father was always in the stands, always with words of encouragement for him.

When the young man went to college, he decided to try out for the football team as a “walk-on.” Everyone was sure he could never make the cut, but he did. The coach admitted he kept him on the roster because he always put his heart and soul into every practice, and at the same time, provided other members with the spirit and hustle they badly needed. The news that he had survived the cut thrilled him so much they he rushed to the nearest phone and called his father. His father shared his excitement and was sent season tickets for all the college games.

This persistent young athlete never missed practice during his four years at college, but he never got to play in a game. It was the end of the senior football season, and as he trotted on the practice field shortly before the big playoff game, the coach met him with a telegram.

The young man read the telegram and became deathly silent. Swallowing hard, he mumbled to the coach, “My father died this morning. Is it all right if I miss practice today?” The coach put his arm gently around his shoulder and said “take the rest of the week off, son. And don’t even plan to come back to the game on Saturday.”

Saturday arrived, and the game was not going well. In the third quarter, when the team was ten points behind, a silent young man slipped into the empty locker room and put on his football gear. As he ran onto the sidelines, the coach and his players were astounded to see their faithful team-mate back so soon.

“Coach, please let me play. I’ve just got to play today,” said the young man. The coach pretended not to hear him. There was no way he wanted his worst player in this close playoff game. But the young man persisted, and finally, feeling sorry for the kid, the coach gave in. “All right,” he said, “you can go in.” Before long, the coach, the players and everyone in the stands could not believe their eyes.

This little unknown, who never played football was doing everything right. The opposing team could not stop him. He ran, he passed, blocked, and tackled like a star. His team began to triumph. The score was soon tied.
the closing seconds of the game, this kid intercepted a pass and ran all the way for the winning touchdown. The fans broke loose. His teammates hoisted him onto their shoulders. Such cheering you never heard. Finally, after the stands had emptied and the team had showered and left the locker room, the coach noticed that this young man was sitting quietly in the corner all alone.

The coach came to him and said, “Kid, I can’t believe it. You were fantastic! Tell me what got into you? How did you do it?” He looked at the coach, with tears in his eyes, and said, “Well, you knew my Dad died, but did you know that my Dad was blind?” The young man swallowed hard and forced a smile, “Dad came to all my games, but today was the first time he could see me play, and I wanted to show him I could do it!”

GED Test

The following adults have successfully taken and passed the Practice GED test and are scheduled to take the GED test in April or May.

Mark Culp
Sarah Emler
Dennis Foster
Kendra Pope
Michelle Swafford
Linda Slocum

GOOD LUCK to each of you!

Internet News

For those of you who have not yet explored the internet, please take the time to do so. For those of you who have, and who find it to be an ocean of information, please be sure to let the CORC staff know of any sites which are of interest to you.

We would like to keep a log of sites which you find worth exploring and we encourage you to share those of interest with us!!

On the down side, chatting is a fantastic tool for carrying on conversations via the internet; however, remember that if you do chat, it is limited to 20 minutes only. Be sure to check out the chat sites which cover topics like parenting, health, employment, and current events.

*WEB SITES TO CHECK OUT!!!

Here are some sites which InfiNET Technologies shared in their newsletter recently. Be sure to check them out and let us know what you think!

BaseballSites
www.majorleaguebaseball.com
www.indians.com
www.clippersbaseball.com

Home Projects
www.hometime.com- this site features a variety of projects for home improvement.

And, of course, do not forget to check out our web site page. It is under constant construction, but browse it anyway. You can find the CORC page by going to www.corcjobtraining.com

Other sites to visit are:

www.state.oh.us- this is the OBES(Ohio Bureau of Employment Services) web site and there is a variety of information regarding employment, child care, non traditional occupations, and numerous Job Listings by county.

http://literacy.kent.edu- OLRC (Ohio Literacy Resource Center) Web site includes a section titled, “Suggested Sited for Students”. Check it out!!

**If you need any help getting on the internet or locating any of these web sites, please ask a staff member to assist you.

Enjoy Surfing the Net.....

A QUICK QUOTE

“‘You must learn from the mistakes of others. You can’t possibly live long enough to make them all yourself.”

Sam Levenson