



ABSOLUTELY INCREDIBLE KID DAY

Thursday, MARCH 19, 2009

Join Camp Fire USA Wathana Council (Michigan) and

thousands of others around the country on March 19, 2009 and write words of encouragement and support to a child,. This form of encouragement has proven that children are inspired by the words heard from a loved one. "I have seen first hand the impact that these letters have on the children who receive them," said Linda Tarjeft, Executive Director, Wathana Council. "Writing a letter is an awesome way to create an environment of understanding and caring with the very youth that hold the key to our future." Research shows that simple words of encouragement and compassion can make a difference in a child's life. Putting those words into a letter allows the recipient to keep and cherish those encouraging words, and return to them for inspiration and guidance, often for years to come. You can join thousands of others on this day by simply sitting down and writing a letter to a child you know and love. Write and tell them how absolutely incredible they are, drop it in the mail and wait to hear the sound of excitement when the child receives a special letter stating how incredible they are.

Letter-Writing Tips

Research shows that writing a letter is a powerful way to make a difference in the life of a child. To make writing *Absolutely Incredible Kid Day*® letters easier, follow these tips:

1. Set aside 10 to 20 minutes in a place where you will be undisturbed.
2. Form a mental picture of the child and the things that you enjoy or appreciate about the child.
3. Make a list of adjectives that describe the child: funny, honest, smart, skillful, helpful, caring...
4. Be specific and descriptive. Use humor. Try "Do you know what I like about you? I like it when you ..."
5. Remember fun times or special moments you and the child have shared. Refer to these events and tell the child what you enjoyed about that time.
6. Don't worry about the length. A brief note can be cherished as much as a two-page letter.
7. Write it by hand. Feel free to make edits as you go.
8. You need not limit yourself to pen and paper. Send an encouraging e-mail, postcard or greeting card. Mail it, put in a lunch box, on a bed or read it to a child.

Sample Sentences To Get You Started...

- You always make me smile.
- You are very special in your unique way...
- I know that growing up today is sometimes really hard...
- Spending time with you makes me so happy! I really enjoy when we...
- Has anyone ever told you that you can do anything you truly believe in? You can!
- You can accomplish anything if you set your mind to it. The trick is believing in yourself enough to try.

Here Are Some Sample Letters

Dear Kristen,

Today is Absolutely Incredible Kid Day. You are so very special to me, I am so proud of all of your accomplishments. Keep up the great work. You have a heart as big as Texas, and I love it when you sprinkle your happy dust on your friends and family and even people you do not know.

*Love,
Mommy*

Dear Will,

Has anyone ever told you that you can do anything you truly believe in? Well, I'm telling you this now! Whether you want to be a pilot, a doctor, an artist, or even President of the United States, you can accomplish your goals by working hard and dreaming big. Keep up the great work, Will, and remember that you are special and that the world can't wait to see what dreams you can think up!

*Keep Dreaming,
Scott*

To learn more about Absolutely Incredible Kid Day and for free downloadable materials visit the Camp Fire USA web site at www.campfireUSA.org and click on *Absolutely Incredible Kid Day*.