

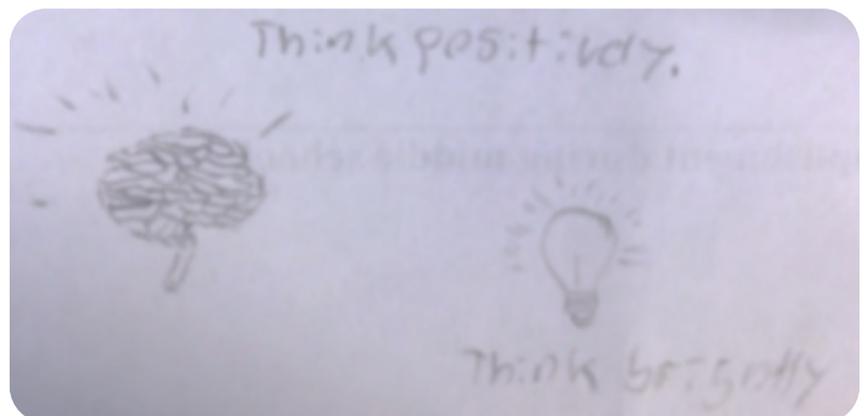
JDC NEWSLETTER

Share your Greatest Success or Accomplishment During Elementary School:

- "Getting honor roll and Principal's honor roll."
- "I had all A's and B's in school."
- "Showing up for school and if I didn't do my work just to pay attention."
- "I was the fastest in my class."
- "I was an A+ student."
- "Finished 5th grade and moved on two middle school. Also never got in trouble and made my mom proud of me."
- "My greatest thing I accomplished in elementary was when I got perfect attendance in the 4th grade."
- "By making the honor roll."
- "I was always first place in the spelling bee."
- "Going to school getting my grades and doing my work."
- "The greatest success or accomplishment I did in elementary was make the honor roll in 4th grade."
- "Won the spelling contest."
- "I had fun when I used to play flag football."
- "Real cool with everybody, loved to smile."
- "Making it through K-5th grade."

THE POWER OF POSITIVE THINKING

As part of the Positive Peer Leadership Mentoring Program a group of young men residing at the Miami-Dade Regional Juvenile Detention Center came together to explore the power of positive thinking. The meeting began with a discussion about positive thinking, which led to a reflection activity asking the young men to recall some of their greatest accomplishments. Each participant wrote about success experienced from elementary school to the last week. To conclude, each participant shared positive peer advice based on their greatest successes or accomplishments by writing some lyrics to a song or drawing a picture. Below is the work from the young men.



(Think positively. Think brightly.)

Critical Community of Practice

Share Your Greatest Success or Accomplishment During Middle School:

- "Wining my first fight."
- "I completed middle school with flying colors."
- "Doing my work to learn new things."
- "Playing football."
- "I won first place in technology."
- "I was respectful to my classmates and peers."
- "I had good grades and never skipped class or went to smoke and did the right thing."
- "My greatest accomplishment in middle school was, I finished middle school and graduated to high school with a good G.P.A."
- "Attend after-school activities."
- "I graduated to high school."
- "Showing up to school, doing what I was supposed to do, following what the teacher said and doing what was best for me to get out of middle school."
- "What I accomplished in middle school was to pass to high school."
- "Won the championship basketball game."
- "I was successful when I was in drumline."
- "Doing the right thing when it needed to be done."
- "Passing the FCAT."

Share Your Greatest Success or Accomplishment During the Past Year:

- "Meeting my girlfriend and getting arrested. They both taught me I have something better to live for."

- "I played basketball and am trying to change."
- "I went to jail and fell off track. But now, to better myself, I got a trade."
- "I passed my cooking class in foster care."
- "I saved a cat from falling out of the tree."
- "I stayed out of trouble and was going back to school."
- "I really don't have any success or accomplishment this year because all I've been doing is hurting my family and making them sad and mad at me."
- "My greatest success during the past year was, I got a job with my uncle."
- "Finishing probation."
- "I stop using drugs and am going back to school after DJJ."
- "The greatest thing I accomplished this past this year was make it to high school and make my mother proud."
- "I went to jail because I fell off track, now I'm trying to get my life together and go back to school and do better."
- "Got accepted in the senior art program."
- "I met a girl and now she's my girlfriend."
- "Playing football and going to the playoffs."
- "Stopping drugs."

Share Your Greatest Success or Accomplishment During the Past Week:

- "Accepting rehab so I can become a better person and stay off drugs."
- "I am being good in DJJ."

Empowering Culture of Thinking

“Was me getting back in school.”

“I helped Ms. Pane.”

“I stayed at level 3.”

“Pray everyday and been behaving good and don’t disrespect any of the staff.”

“My greatest accomplishment during the past week was, when I went from a level 2-1 to a level 3.”

“Making 300 hundred dollars at a car wash.”

“I have been in DJJ and it helped me realize how important school is and to respect our parents.”

“I been through a lot so have a great past.”

“The greatest thing I accomplished this past week is nothing because I’m in here.”

“Got prayed for.”

“I found a job.”

“Cutting the grass at home staying in the house.”

“Finding out I have 24 credits.”

Share Positive Peer Advice Based on Your Greatest Successes or Accomplishments by Writing Some Lyrics to a Song:

“Don’t worry about a thing because every little thing is going to be alright.”

“Happy - everyone has their times,

Being calm show your inside,

Don’t be shy, just come along,

If you have a problem, walk away

And never be afraid.”

“I get so happy every time they release me from the JAC. I go home and smoke some trees. Then I go and hit some licks. Then back to the beginning, back to the JAC, but this time they didn’t release me so I am here in DJJ and not too happy.”

“If you’re happy and you know it, clap your hands (clap clap). If you’re happy, and you really want to show it clap your hands (clap clap.)”

“I made it through the struggle ^{3x}

I grinded out the gotta ^{3x}

Just a letter to my momma

I never had a father

Ain’t no more going back.”

“I been to jail and nawl, I ain’t going back.

I’ll never hit a girl, nawl, never dat.

I tell the Lord, forgive me for all my sins.

But just 1 more, God, I need to go in.”

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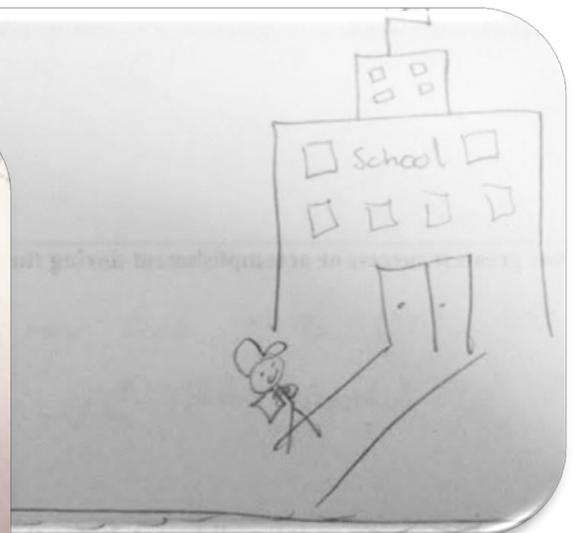
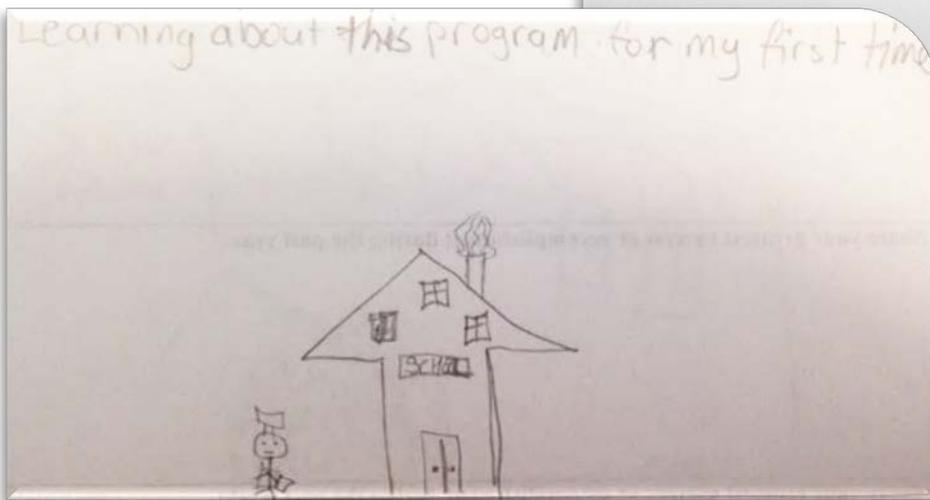
“Loyalty and trust is what I lust
 Leadership and integrity nobody scared of me
 Man to man, let’s make a plan
 Let’s sit and make some thoughts
 So we can make a very great plot.”

“I get so happy every time they
 release me from DJJ, cuz I get to be
 with my mom again.”

“Got a problem talk it out
 Bad time to talk walk it out.”

“It seems like every time you do right you get
 wrong,
 And every time you do wrong, you still wrong
 When I was penned up I prayed everyday that I
 was going home.”

“Never give up don’t let up
 No matter how big or how tough
 Don’t give up.”



Clockwise from top left:
 Learning about this program for
 my first time, School, and Big
 House!

“Have a problem talk it out
 Work together don’t scream or
 shout
 Problem just don’t go away
 It all depends on what you say
 Tell what happens say what’s true
 Listen to trueblood point of view
 Be polite don’t name call or fight
 Getting together dat’s just rite it.”

