



Berry Beary Incredible's Ideas

Jellina sat crying. She was trying to remember how to tie her brother's shoe. She wanted to learn how to be a real mommy, a good one, like her mother was. There were so many things she wanted and needed to learn if she was going to be able to care for her own family one day.

Today she decided it was good to learn how to put shoes onto her younger brother. First she tried this way and then that way, trying to get the laces to tighten up and look right, but it was no use.

She was discouraged.

Just then, riding along on his bike, came Berry Beary Incredible. He knew all about inventions. This gave Jellina hope. "Maybe he knew something that could help," she thought.

Jellina's mother was sitting on the bench preparing their picnic, and waved to Berry Beary Incredible as he went past. It seemed he didn't have any reason to stop at the playground, but something made him think to do so.

After parking his bike he walked over to see what Jellina and the little boy were doing.

“I just can’t seem to remember how to tie the shoe!” Jellina said, rather exasperated. “I’ve asked my mother to show me many times, but I just can’t seem to remember.

“Aha!” said Berry Beary Incredible, “so you need an invention that helps you to remember what to do next.”

Jellina smiled and nodded. The little boy was playing with some pinecones and leaves, and running his hands in the sandbox that they were sitting next to.

Berry Beary Incredible picked up a twig and began drawing shapes in the sand. It was a pictorial, step by step plan of how to tie the shoes.

“First you do this...” Berry Beary Incredible said, drew, and then demonstrated to Jellina what to do.

“Next you do this...” he continued to show and draw.

On it went, until the shoe was tied.

“Now, following these pictures in the sand, why don’t you try to tie the next shoe? I’ll be here to help guide you.”

So Jellina gave it one more try, and thankfully this time, it worked! The picture, the example, and the guiding hands had made it possible.

A smiling Jellina and a cheery little brother came over, hand in hand, to mother. “Look Mother! I can do it now!”

“That’s wonderful!” she said with a smile.

Berry Beary Incredible tipped his hat to say good bye, and “Thank you,” mother said as he rode away on his bike.

“That was like Berry Beary Kind! I think soon there will be so many nice folks here. It’s nice when there are lots of people who can help,” Jellina said.

“And you helped too,” Jellina’s mother said. “You are learning too!”

A laughing little brother was toddling around, happy for his new shoes!

Berry Beary Incredible arrived at Berry Beary Kind’s house just a few minutes later than planned. He had been biking there for a special meeting.

“Sorry I’m late. I had a bit of a stopover at the park...” he said to Berry Beary Kind, and explained about helping the girl to tie the shoe.

“Well, good for you. When people are late because they’ve put the needs of others first—above their own timely plans and schedule—that is a good thing. Good for you!”

“Just think, if I had to go and help everyone, in each situation—I’d never be able to be sitting here with you today, working out new plans for an even brighter future!”

It was an interesting coincidence, however, that the meeting was about the summer program for children who wanted to get a taste at learning things they might want to do when they grew up.

For example, some children might want to be professional chef’s and learn to cook for the healthy and cozy restaurants around the town.

During the Summer program they would get to spend an hour or two with a chef in one of the set up tents, and be his or her assistant. They could ask any questions they had about what it was actually like doing the work, as an adult.

Perhaps another child wanted to learn to make shoes, so they could watch some of the town’s cobblers, who worked on making and fixings shoes part of their time.

These skilled workers would show and tell everything they could to the visiting children who came to find out about it.

The children could visit as many tents as they wished and get a taste of helping in all sorts of ways. This would be an experience they would remember for a long time afterwards; and something that would be both fun and educational.

This Summer program would run for two weeks, giving children and young people the chance to make the rounds to all the different tents and trades that they wanted to, and only have a few children at a time in each tent. This way they could get all their questions answered, as well as have as much hands-on training and trying things out as they could.

“Perhaps your experience at the park today is a good reminder of what should be added to the list of tents—the tent of learning the very important job of being a mother and a father.

“Children could learn to help care for babies, and see what goes into giving them proper care. They can learn about all the jobs a father has to do to ensure that his family is well looked after. There could be a section of the tent for learning to make simple and safe toys for young ones.”

Berry Beary Kind was getting new ideas, and Berry Beary Incredible pulled out his note book to keep track of all the kinds of things that should be included.

Berry Beary Incredible suggested, “What do you think about a tent for inventors and designers? I can think of a number of things that might really interest the young ones.

“With new challenges in a town, there is always a need for new things to be thought up and invented...”

“That sounds like a heap of fun,” Berry Beary Kind agreed.

The list of tent stations that would be set up that Summer was getting longer. It seemed that just about every adult in the town would be able to participate in some way, and help to show the young people a bit about their trades and skills.

Everyone had something to offer and teach others, they just needed the right opportunity to be able to shine in their special way. Some talents that some of the town folk had was rather obscure and little was know about, but were needed skills that came just in time at the right time.

Berry Beary Kind wanted everyone to be able to realise that whatever they knew how to do that made things better for others in some way, was worth being recognised for and worth showing and telling the young folks about.

Some of these little-known skills were things like:

- How to make a bed properly, in such a nice comfortable way.
- How to clean a jammed drain.
- How to write a letter of request in a way that the recipient would enjoy both reading and answering it.
- How to colour really nicely, with the right kinds of colouring schemes that made a picture enjoyable to look at.
- How to get someone warm after they had been too cold for a long time, in some rescue situation.
- How to write a song, and make it meaningful, catchy, and easy to sing.

And so forth.

Berry Beary Kind smiled when looking over the long final list that he and Berry Beary Incredible, and many others before today, had helped to make—of all that the Summer program would offer. It was going to be one fun and very memorable event for sure.

Berry Beary Incredible thought of Jellina—she'd like it for sure, especially the tent all set up to teach children how to be loving and skilled and great mothers and fathers.

Berry Beary Kind Series:
www.nurture-inspire-teach.com