

A small boy lived by the ocean. He loved the creatures of the sea, especially the starfish, and spent much of his time exploring the seashore. One day he learned there would be a tide that would leave the starfish stranded on the sand. That day he he went down to the beach and began picking up stranded starfish and tossing them back into the sea. An elderly man saw what he was doing and asked what he was doing. "I'm saving starfish"; he proudly declared. The old man saw all the stranded starfish and he shook his head and said "I'm sorry to disappoint you, but if you look down the the beach there are stranded starfish as far as the eye can see. And if you look down the beach the other way, it's the same. One little boy like you isn't going to make much of a difference." The boy thought about this for a moment. Then he reached his small hand down to the sand, picked up a starfish, tossed it out into the ocean and said;

"I sure made a difference for that one."

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