



HS 240 Families Studies

Option 2

Pay It Forward Project

Well my pay it forward started off after watching the video you posted "[Change for a Dollar](#)". That video opened my eyes for a whole new beginning of what matters in my life. I thank you from the bottom of my heart Kasey for that video it sure made me and my children think differently about life and wanting so many material things.

This project by far has been the most heartwarming and fun one I have done in the past three and a half years. This project let me see life in a different way; I was also able to include my children and the children I work with. The learning went beyond the Credenda classroom!

November 26th 2011: I bought \$10.00 in groceries at the Superstore and put them in the food donation drop box. As I walked past I put \$5.00 in the salvation army collection when I did this the man standing there ringing his bell said to me "Merry Christmas." I replied, "Merry Christmas to you also." My heart felt good knowing I could help others and then the idea took off with me and my children making a list of what we could do.

December 3rd 2011: My youngest son Mathew and I went to Sobeys to buy some food and a 649 ticket. It came up to about 12.00 so I gave the cashier a twenty dollar bill. There was a couple behind us with not much in their basket and the lady was on crutches. I told the cashier to use my leftover change to pay for part of their groceries. She looked at me like I was nuts! I had to repeat myself again then she said "o.k. I can do that" then we left, not wanting them to know we did that for them. It felt nice and my son even said, "That is a nice thing to do, Mom."

December 3rd 2011; The lottery ticket was put into a envelope and I wrote on the front "from a stranger, I hope you win on this ticket and if you do all I ask is that you help others in need PAY IT FORWARD" the gift of kindness. My boys and I went driving around Prince Albert until we spotted a house. My youngest son got out of the truck and quietly put it in that house's mailbox and we drove home.

December 4th 2011: This was a very busy Sunday for us. It started at Wal-Mart. The boys picked out three gifts to put in the Santa anonymous drop box. After that we went outside and I put a penny down on the ground, put 1.75 in the pop machine and walked back to our truck. Then we went to Sobeys to buy a sandwich, cookie and juice. After leaving Sobeys we had a \$5.00 Tim Horton's gift card that we picked up that morning, so now where were we going to put this card? My oldest son told me to put it on a car so we picked a car and put the card between the two doors. We watched the person find the card and laugh. He was looking around the parking lot as if it were a joke from a friend. We all sat in the truck watching him and laughing ourselves. I put a note inside the card saying "the gift of kindness from a stranger pay it forward." When he read the note he was shaking his head and still laughing. It was a great feeling watching someone so happy with something so little.

The next thing we were going to do was leave a lunch, mitts, scarf and woolen socks on a park bench by the river. My oldest son had a different idea, he asked me to drive down central, so I did. He saw an old man on the street that we knew was familiar with street life. My son told me to stop the truck and he took the stuff in the bags and walked towards the man. The man jumped back as if he thought he might be hurt by my son. After watching them talking and seeing my son pass the bags to the old man and seeing the smile on his face while he was patting my sons head. It brought tears to my eyes. I was sobbing like a child watching my son giving to a complete stranger without fear. As I watched him walk back towards the truck with a smile so big (but tears in his eyes) we shared a special moment with that old man whose name we don't know. This by far had to have been the most humbling feelings I have ever felt in my life and I'm so happy I was able to share that moment with my sons.

December 7th 2011: The children at Head Start decorated cupcakes to give to the satellite site Head Start. I talked to them about doing nice things for each other and asked if they would like to make some cupcakes for a different school of kids. They were excited so we all started decorating these cupcakes. We all got in the bus and went up to the satellite site, we had snack with them then my kids handed out cupcakes to the kids up there. They were all so sweet and all the thank you that were used were so great!

The children at my center have started a helping hands board, every time they help out someone else they get a helping hand on the board and it will say why they received it. It sure makes them all so helpful to each other.

December 8th 2011: We were at Tim Horton's in the drive thru window and I said to the cashier I wanted to pay for the order of the person behind me. It was a nice feeling and my husband said to me, "You really like this pay it forward project, don't you?" I said to him, "it's not a project anymore. It's a way of life."

December 9th 2011: One of the girls at work made me two candy cups to give away as part of the new way of life so I gave one to the lady that takes care of my son after school. Then my son wanted to give the other one to our new neighbors that just bought the house across the street from us. When he went there to drop it off he said

to them, "this is from my family as a welcome to the neighborhood gift." He said they said to him, "Thank you we really appreciate it."

December 10th 2011: my husband and I bought \$15.00 worth of food for the food donation box.

I have found great value in this project that ties into this course. I have the ability to look at all people as equals and no reasons to judge anyone. I also see how we all like to have a little help from others at one time or another.

I also would like to end off this by saying this project is one that will not end after that last word is typed it will last in my heart forever.