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# The Power of Youth

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I believe in childhood imagination. When we are kids, anything is possible. Life is limitless and dreams still seem like they can someday be reality. It is this imagination and fearlessness that inspires kids to become great people. We chase after our dreams with reckless abandon, but as we grow older, we get caught up in the reality of the adult world and we forget what once mattered to us. Innocence disappears into corruption and dishonesty. The few people who continue to chase their childhood dreams are the ones who make a difference. The little boys who dreamt of riding on the big red fire truck are the ones who came to the rescue on September 11<sup>th</sup>. The girls who took care of sick baby dolls are the doctors who save lives every day. The kids who flew around the house acting like superheroes grow up and turn into real heroes.

I believe that kids hold the key to the future. They are the police officers and senators and business owners of the future. Someday, they will be parents and grandparents and will teach their own children and grandchildren how to dream and to believe in the power of their dreams. It is so discouraging to me that many adults pay no mind to what kids say. Their ideas should have value, not necessarily because they are fantastic ideas, but because by listening, you encourage their creativity, their imagination, and their ability to dream big.

Dreaming gives us hope in a quickly darkening world. It allows us to think freely of the possibilities that lie ahead of us, without focusing on the barriers that stand between us and accomplishment. Kids don't think about the restrictions that reality places on them. Rather, they use their imaginations to work around reality. As adults, we should take this lesson from the youth of our world. We need to be open to suggestion and possibility. We should always continue to chase our dreams, and never stop striving for our best.