

THE JOY OF LEARNING

"I can't catch minnows! It's impossible!" quacked Tammy as she paddled furiously around the pond.

"Tammy, dear," her mother said, "learning to catch minnows takes time."

"Well, it's too hard for me!" Tammy exclaimed and waddled out of the water. "I quit!"

"Mastering a skill takes time," Mother explained. "Sometimes things come easier for you, but there are many times when you simply have to keep trying until you finally perfect that new skill. If you give up every time something is difficult, you'll miss out on learning new things."



“But why does it have to be so hard for me?” Tammy asked. “Tiffany and Terry could catch minnows after only a few tries.”

“There are things that are easier for some to do than for others,” Mother said. “But there are some things that you learned to do more easily than your siblings. After all, you were the one to pick up swimming first, and your diving is superb.”

Tammy began to perk up. “You mean, if I try hard enough, I’ll be able to catch minnows too?”

“In time, yes, dear,” Mother said. “Now why don’t you go give it another try?”



With a quack Tammy waddled off to the water, and once again remembering the instructions her mother had given her for catching minnows, she tried her best. There were several times Tammy felt like giving up, but she persevered. Finally...

“I did it, Mother!” Tammy exclaimed. “I caught my first minnow!”

Mother smiled. “I’m proud of you for not giving up. Perseverance paid off.”

Learning is a part of life; in fact, learning is a process that carries on throughout your whole life. Learning new things can be a happy experience.



Even if something is a bit difficult at first, once you're able to manage it on your own, you feel proud of your accomplishment.

You may not always realize that you are learning something new, but when you discover answers to your questions, or master a new skill, these are examples of ways that you are learning.

Your whole life is filled with new things to learn, so make the most of it by persevering even when it's difficult. You can have so much excitement and fun as you learn new things!

