

For the Difference Makers

One day a man was walking along a sandy beach where hundreds of starfish had washed up on the shore. He noticed a boy in the distance picking them up one by one and gently throwing them back into the ocean.

Approaching the boy, he asked, “What are you doing?” The boy explained that he was returning the starfish to the sea. The man challenged, “There are too many. It can’t possibly make a difference.”

At that, the boy picked up another starfish, threw it into the ocean, and said with a smile, “It made a difference to that one.”

– Adapted from [The Star Thrower](#) by [Loren Eiseley](#).