

It's His Choice

James is a 5 yr. old kindergarten student. James was impossible to control during the first two nine weeks of school. His teachers constantly sent him home with sad face after sad face. James would come to high hopes and not listen and would not want to do his work. The counselors and I spoke with James' mother about his behavior. We didn't want to remove James from the program because that would certainly not help his academics. James' mom said she was at a lost concerning his behavior. She honestly did not know what else to do. She had to constantly take off work to pick James up from school because the teachers refused to have him in the classroom. She talked with doctors and of course they suggested adderal. James' behavior has changed drastically. He comes to the homework center with a mind to work and his behavior is superb. Since the beginning of the year James has received a smiley face everyday. He has completed his homework everyday with no resistance. James and I had a talk about his change. I wanted to stress to him that it wasn't the medicine that brought his change. I pointed out to him that his mother and the people around him that support him daily are more deserving. Most of all, I let James know that he was the biggest reason for the change. It was his attitude and his effort that allowed the 180 degree turn. No matter what dosage he takes, he still has a choice to listen and obey his teachers and counselors. Ultimately, with the help of his family and the YMCA, James is a more cooperative and focused student who can take full advantage of his education.