

# Failure

It's written in big, bold letters so you wouldn't miss it. It's something we'd all like to avoid thinking about, but it's a fact of everyone's life. It may sound strange, but every successful person has been a failure at some point in his or her life. No one is a winner every time. For example, Michael Jordan failed to make his high school basketball team! There are kids (and adults, too) who never try to do anything because they are so afraid they might not do it right. They have a fear of failure.

A famous scientist and author Dr. Isaac Asimov once said, "**Some things are worth a reasonable amount of hot water.**" In other words, you are not going to succeed and make everyone happy every time. You might get into "hot water" some of the time. You might make mistakes along the way. That's OK!

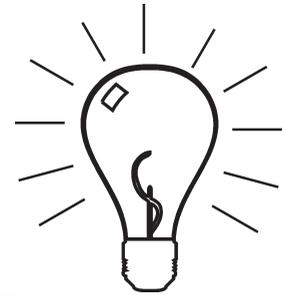
**Any** attempt to do something, even if it doesn't work out the way you'd hoped, is a victory...if you have the self-confidence to make the attempt. In fact, the worst failure in life is not to have tried at all.

Maybe you've thought of some things you'd like to try. Maybe you have some goals you think you can reach someday, but you are really hesitant to work on them. You may think you are not good enough or smart enough or talented enough to do them.

In the next chapter, you are going to think about setting some goals. Don't limit yourself and your attempts because you are afraid you might fail! If you do fail, **learn** from the experience and move on. That's what makes a successful person.

## Think About It!

Now think about your fear of failure. What is one thing you would like to do that you have never done?



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What are you afraid will happen if you try it and don't succeed?

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Then what would happen?

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Then what would you do?

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What is the worst thing that could happen?

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