READING

Online comments

1 **Read the online comments. Who has got something in common with their hero?** _____

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FROM EARLY CHALLENGES TO ADULT SUCCESS!

Many of you liked our article last week about young adults who faced difficult times when they were kids but never stopped trying. Comments have flown in from all over the world!

An astrophysicist when he was still a teenager, Jake Barnett has made the biggest impression on me. Doctors said he had autism when he was two, and that he might never speak. But he did, and he has shown an amazing talent for maths. Now in his 20s, Jake has an incredible memory and remembers every maths problem he has ever solved!

Hooper 30 m ago

His name is Aaron 'Wheelz' Fotheringham and he's an amazing athlete. Now an adult, he needed a wheelchair when he was eight. He wanted to do tricks like his friends on skateboards and BMXs, so he took skateboard and BMX tricks and invented his own wheelchair tricks. You need strength and determination to become an extreme sportsperson when you can't use your legs. I use a wheelchair, and Aaron's had a big effect on me.

cre8tiv 35 m ago

Bethany Hamilton was 13 and already a great surfer when a shark attacked her and bit off her left arm. Three weeks after the accident, she got back into the water and continued surfing with only one arm! She made a book deal at 14, and a movie, *Soul Surfer*, followed. Now, as an adult, Bethany works hard helping others to face their challenges.

daisymay 45 m ago

2 **Read the comments again and check the meaning of these words in a dictionary. Then complete the sentences.**

~~autism~~	extreme	face
tricks	wheelchair	

1 A child with __autism__ might not have good communication or social skills.
2 My brother used a _____ for a while after he broke both his legs.
3 We have to _____ our problems if we want to solve them.
4 Rock climbing is exciting and dangerous – it's one of the oldest _____ sports.
5 We've learned to do some great new _____ on our skateboards.

3 **Read the comments again. Are the sentences *T* (true), *F* (false) or *DS* (doesn't say)?**

1 Jake has an unusual talent for remembering numbers. __T__
2 He's doing research in astrophysics. ___
3 Aaron invented new skateboard and BMX tricks. ___
4 A lot of people watch Aaron's wheelchair tricks online. ___
5 Bethany started surfing again three weeks after the shark attack. ___
6 First there was a film about her, and after that she wrote a book. ___

4 **Answer the questions with your own ideas.**

1 Which person in the comments has faced the biggest challenge? Why?

_____

2 Have you faced a big challenge? What was it?

_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS