

That First Step

Are you ready for the challenge, Harry?

I guess so...

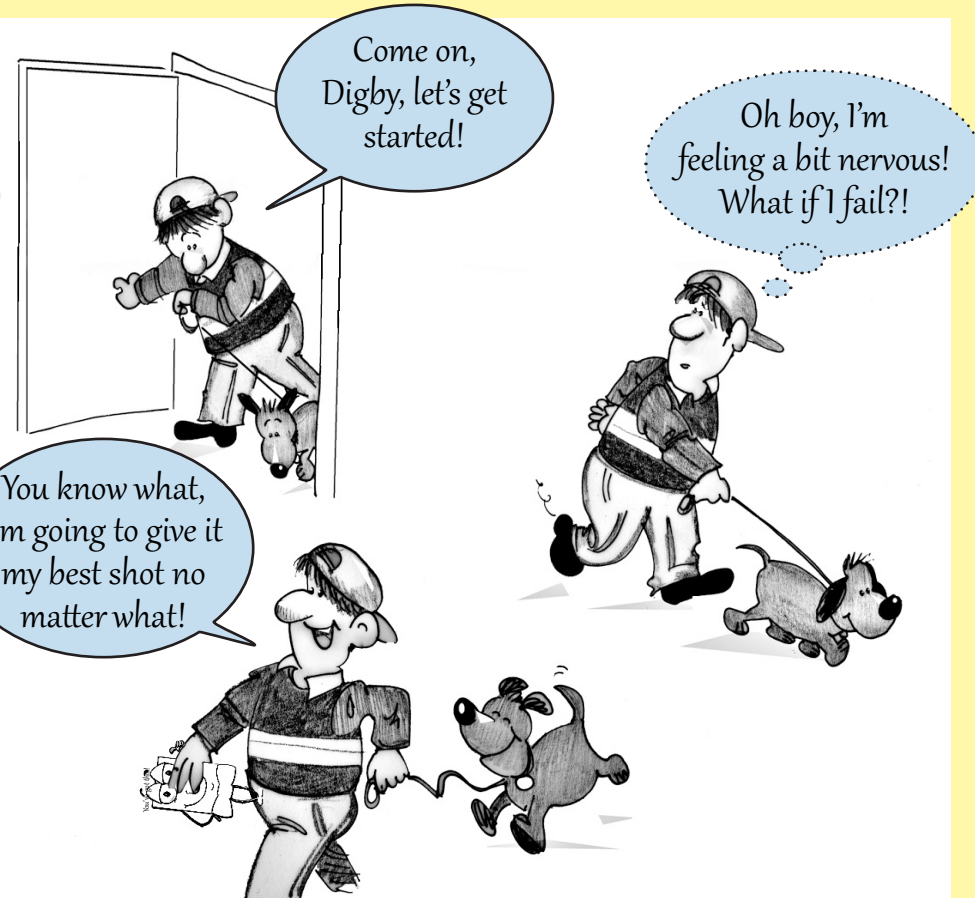


Taking on new challenges isn't easy. New challenges put you on a path of growth, maturity, and skill that you wouldn't experience if you were content to stick with what you already know. Change is the steppingstone for future growth and progress. A challenge can also be a way to redirect your interests or skills in a new way—perhaps one you didn't even consider before, but it can open exciting possibilities for you.

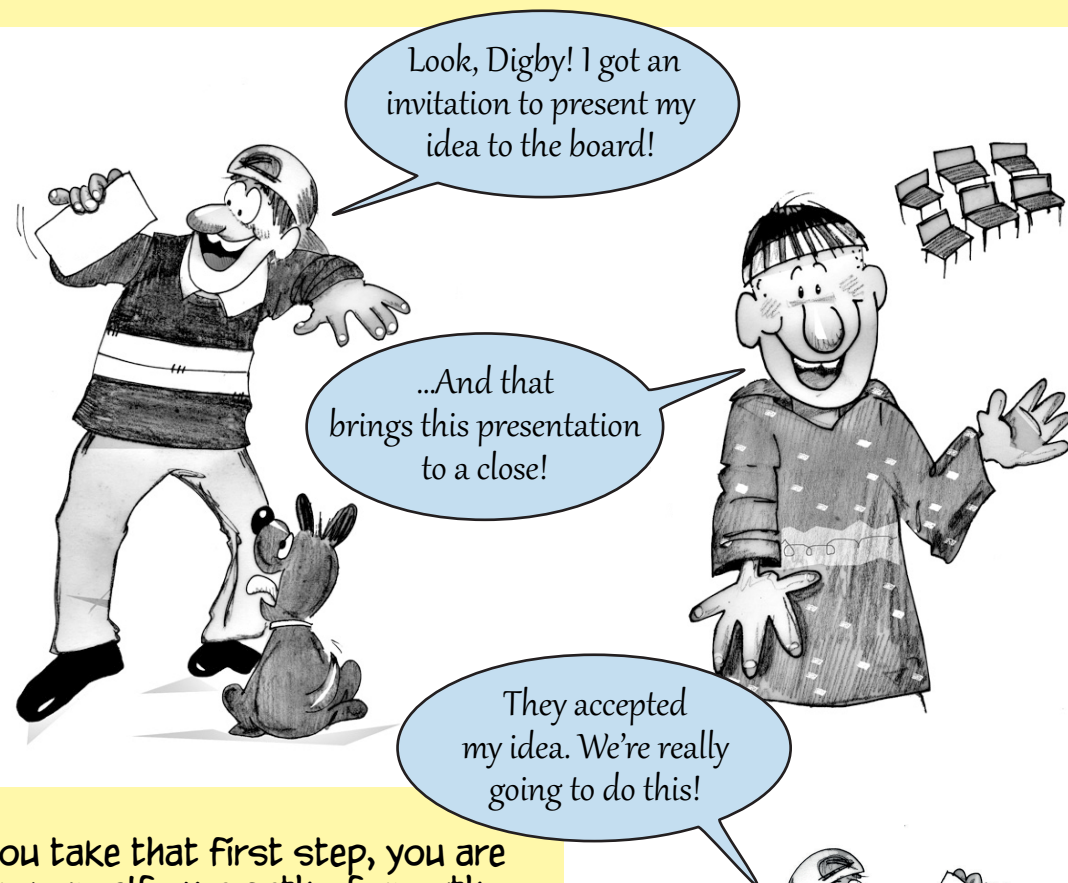
However, taking that first step is usually difficult. When you face a new challenge or change, you must decide how you're going to approach it. What are you going to do?

- Jump in wholeheartedly and get the most out of the experience despite the unknowns.
- Try it out cautiously but don't commit fully because you're unsure.
- Resist this change because it seems like too much work or because you fear it won't work out.

The only way you can really gain from a new challenge is by jumping into it wholeheartedly. Proceeding with caution with the option to back out might seem smart, but that approach prevents you from giving the change your best effort.



You may not feel confident going into a new challenge, but remember, confidence grows with time and experience. It's not about how confident you feel at first that counts, it's what you decide to do that matters most. The choice that will make you the happiest is when you give your best to any new challenge or change. Then, if it doesn't work out, at least you can look back with the knowledge that you gave it your best effort, instead of disappointment that you didn't give it your best.



When you take that first step, you are putting yourself on a path of growth, but only you can make that decision. Only you can decide to take that first step, both in your heart and in your actions. Don't let the newness or unknown outcome hold you back from reaching for new and different experiences. You never know what opportunities await you until you step out of your comfort zone. Take that first step. Great things await those who are willing to step out and try.



S&S link: Character Building: Values and Virtues: Contentment-2e and Character Building: Personal Responsibility: Learning and Study Skills-2e

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