



The East Valley Kicker

“Let us rise up and be thankful, for if we didn’t learn a lot today, at least we learned a little, and if we didn’t learn a little, at least we didn’t get sick, and if we got sick, at least we didn’t die; so let us all be thankful.” -Buddha

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NOVEMBER 2017

KIDS GIVING THANKS

Want to earn an extra Great Job ticket? Turn in a list of the 10 things you are most thankful for, sign your name, and turn it in any time this month for an extra ticket.

REFERRALS & REVIEWS

Your dojo needs your referrals to your family and friends.

Please also refer us to other potential students by giving us a review online. East Valley Martial Arts is on most major website listings.

Thank you!!!!!!!!!!!!



The East Valley Kicker is provided courtesy of East Valley Martial Arts—Kenshin Kan

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Kirk Gauger,

Renshi, 6th Dan &

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Renshi, 6th Dan

How to Lead the Japanese Way

by Jenifer Tull-Gauger

When young, our parents and other adults caretakers lead us. As toddlers, their leadership takes a vital role in our development as well as our safety and well-being. Long ago, a Japanese friend of mine told me, “In Japan, we don’t say ‘no’ to kids.”

“Oh?” I prompted.

She said, “If a child is going to touch something that he shouldn’t, we don’t say, ‘No!’ Instead we go to the child and say, ‘Hey, let’s go over here and look at this.’ We lead him to something that’s appropriate to look at and touch.”

That hit me as such a sweet and caring way to protect as well as teach and lead kids. And it opens up so many other avenues. With this Japanese approach, you think about not only the child’s safety and avoiding inappropriate action, but you also consider that individual, and in what direction he will willingly go. What will he find interesting? What does he like to do? How can you give him an alternative that will oc-

cupy his attention?

HOW THIS HELPS YOU LEAD

We can use this approach to lead older kids too. “Instead of playing computer games for hours, join me in a trip to the park/beach/museum/mountains.”

This can help us as Karate instructors, to guide young students. “Instead of playing tag before class, let’s go get warmed up on the mat.”

We can redirect adult students who pick up a set of nunchaku before they are ready to learn weapons, “Hey, show me your empty-hand kata.”

We can use this approach with our spouse if they are putting on weight. Instead of, “You need to work out more.” We can say, “Hey, let’s go for a walk,” and do this regularly.

TOO SUBTLE FOR SOME

Gentle instructors will notice over the years that this approach doesn’t always work. It can be too

subtle, particularly for American adults who have been raised on the “NO! *Don’t touch that!*” approach. But most adults appreciate the friendliness and equanimity of good leadership skills. And for teaching the few that don’t, we can always lead with the velvet glove first. When that doesn’t work, we can take off the glove to reveal the iron fist that we have developed as karate teachers.

ONLY ONE ‘NO’, BUT MANY ‘YESES’

This Japanese approach opens the door to lead with action and your own example and leading by example is the best way to lead. It is our responsibility to help teach young children. We can effectively redirect away from dangerous or inappropriate actions. Try your hand and lead with this approach the next time you see a kid, friend or co-worker going toward an undesired path. Invite them to walk a more appropriate path, side-by-side, with you.

NOV. WEAPON: **Sai, Tonfa**
 (Dec.: Kama, Tan Bo)
 FOCUS: **Positive Attitude**

November 2017



RENSHIS' CELL: (480) 330-8886

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div style="border: 2px dashed orange; padding: 5px;"> <p>NEW Tan Bo or Kama 10% off</p>  <p>By request, order by 10/10.</p> </div>			1	2	3	4 11:00 am Instructor Meeting
5	6	7	8	9	10 Last Day to place Century orders for this month (& best for Xmas!). Teen Games 7:30p (No 7:30 Adults)	11 No classes, Dojo closed for Veteran's Day weekend.
12	13	14	15	16	17 BBC 7:30 pm (No 7:30 pm Adults today)	18 Certificates* & Test* 10:10 am
19	20	21	22	23 No classes, Dojo closed for Thanksgiving weekend. <i>Thanksgiving</i>	24 No classes, Dojo closed for Thanksgiving weekend.	25 No classes, Dojo closed for Thanksgiving weekend.
26	27	28	29	30	Certificate Ceremony & Testing varies the next two months, due to the holidays. Check the calendar for the date. Be sure to come to these to receive your belt certificate for your past tests.	

* = Wear full formal gi / uniform.