

What did your job do for you today?

The crowd begins to cheer and the infamous words 'You can't see me' echoes in the arena. John Cena has arrived. Kyle and I are at the edge of our seats as we have been anticipating this match all night. December 30, 2013 was the experience of a lifetime. Kyle was given the opportunity to attend a live WWE event and I was thrilled to go with him. By collaborating with his friend, Robert, and his worker, we were able to work towards a collective goal and make the experience much more enjoyable. With support from our supervisors, we were able to make plans to share transportation. Additionally, with Robert being a WWE regular, he was able to help guide us in the arena.

The anticipation of attending our first live WWE event was quite apparent as it became the topic of conversation for the month leading up to it. It is clear to me that Kyle is becoming more responsible as a young adult as he took the initiative to plan ahead after our many discussions about what our night would look like. He packed his own drink for meds, organized his money and recommended to eat dinner on the way in order to save money.

Attending the WWE event was an accomplishment for Kyle. It provided him with the opportunity to continue to develop his skills and practice strategies while out in the community. Through encouragement and guidance, Kyle made his night a positive experience, with hopes of many more to come. When supporting others, it is important to be proactive and consider their needs. By developing our self awareness, we are better able to predict and prepare for their reactions. With this said, I considered the surrounding environment we would be in and ensured we could be in an area that best suited his needs. We took the time to buy souvenirs, which meant long, crowded line ups. I took the outside line to avoid crowding and focused on engaging conversation to help Kyle stay focused and not be overwhelmed by his surroundings.

Leaving the arena was an experience in itself. Underground parking gridlock is not on anyone's wish list, but we remained optimistic, cranked the music and relived our favourite moments of the night. It's all about how you view a situation and we chose to 'keep the glass half full'. Were we stuck? Yes. On the other hand, we just had the best night out and chose to savour the moment. Both Kyle and Robert were quite resilient and made the best of the situation.

The classic adage 'A picture is worth a thousand words' is quite true. Pictures create everlasting memories for us to relive and share with others. After our event, I took all of our best photos and created an 8x10 collage photo for Kyle. It will always be a night to remember.

