



e-Beat

**May
2003**

Dear Friend,

May is a month of celebration, for honoring our mothers, congratulating new graduates, remembering our veterans, and wishing joy to newly-married couples.

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Here at Best Buddies, May is also the month of endings. For those who have been a member of e-Buddies as part of a class, it is the time to tell your e-Buddy whether or not you will have access to e-mail over the summer. Tell us, too, what your plans are.

We will be contacting all of our special education teachers to enlist their help in processing their students. We can end a match, we can suspend it, so that both participants understand they won't e-mail again until September, or we can simply continue it.

Whatever your choice, thank you for being part of e-Buddies.

Best,

Lisa Derx
e-Buddies Director

The e-Beat is published online monthly at www.ebuddies.org.
We welcome your contributions.
Please send them to eBuddiesComments@bestbuddies.org.



Ask Emerson

All of your e-Buddies questions answered here!

Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote, “The only way to have a friend is to be one.” In the spirit of those inspiring words, Ask Emerson is a feature designed to help you be the best friend you can be. Each month, we will select a question or two for responses. Send your questions to eBuddiesComments@bestbuddies.org.

Dear Emerson,

I can only check my e-mail at school, and school will be over in a few weeks. What should I tell my e-Buddy? I want to stay matched with him in the fall.

Signed,

See you in September

Dear See You,

You should let your e-Buddy know that you won't have e-mail access over the summer, and that you'd like to resume e-mailing with him when you return to school.

Also, let us at e-Buddies Headquarters know that you will not be e-mailing your e-Buddy this summer. Send an e-mail to eBuddiesComments@bestbuddies.org, and tell us the last day you will be able to e-mail your e-Buddy, and when you will return for the fall.

Signing off,

Emerson

Conversation Starters

The summer is fast approaching. For many of us, that means the end of the school year.



Many e-Buddies take part in e-Buddies as a classroom activity. Others may have found out about e-Buddies through their school's Best Buddies chapter.

Many of us will be back next fall ready for another school year. Some of us will be graduating, while others may be moving out of the area to a new school.

What does the end of the school year mean for you and your e-Buddy?

You could ask:

Do you send your e-mails from school? When do you finish school for the year? Will you be able to e-mail me over the summer? Are there any events coming up to mark the end of the school year (end of school dance, graduation, etc.)? Are you involved in Best Buddies at your school? Will you be coming back to the same school next year?

Have you had a great conversation with your e-Buddy about something? Have some ideas for questions that get the talk going? Send you ideas for Conversation Starters to Bill Maurer at BillMaurer@bestbuddies.org

Online with...



This month, the e-Beat talks with Kendra, who has been an e-Buddy since February of 2000!

e-Beat: How long have you been an e-Buddy?

Kendra: I have been an e-Buddy for about 3 years.

e-Beat: Why did you want to be an e-Buddy?

Kendra: I saw my brother Ken having a lot of fun and always getting emails from his e-Buddy so I wanted an e-Buddy too.

e-Beat: How do you think e-Buddies makes a difference in the lives of others?

Kendra: e-Buddies provides lots of fun times on the computer and people learn a lot of information about many things. Having an e-Buddy friend makes people happy too.

e-Beat: How do you think e-Buddies has made a difference in your life?

Kendra: I have learned a lot and improved my reading and spelling. I have many happy times writing and getting emails from my e-Buddy. My e-Buddy is very nice and I love sharing girl stuff with her like my boy friends and she tells me about her family. I have a wonderful friend!

e-Beat: How often do you get on-line?

Kendra: I am on the computer everyday, mornings and evenings. I now have a lot of friends I email as well as my e-Buddy.

e-Beat: What three words would you use to describe e-Buddies?

Kendra: Educational, Fun, Fun!

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