

Narrative Eighth-grade Practice Prompt #3: We all have done things that, when we look back, we would have done differently. Recall a time when you did or said something you wished you could erase and do over. Explain what you did, and tell what you'd do differently.

A Nevada Eighth Grade “Sparkler”

I have done many things I wish I could do over, or just not do at all. However, the first thing that came to mind when I read the topic was my incident with the candle.

I was probably around seven or eight years old, wait, yeah, I was seven. Old enough to know not to mess with lit candles. I had walked into the bathroom to throw something away, and the burning candle caught my eye. (I have always been fascinated by candles and melting wax.) The candle had been burning for a while, so there was a lot of melted wax in the candle. My little seven year old self was convinced that the candle would continue to burn until there was so much wax that it would over throw the flame and put it out. The candle was too fascinating for me to let that happen. I didn't know that wax could evaporate. So, I took the candle and, very carefully, (pyromaniac that I was. I didn't want to get burned), poured most of the wax down the drain. I then realized that the wax would harden and clog the sink. (The timing of my epiphany was perfect, don't you think?) I then had to confess to Mom and Dad, if I didn't, I would only be in more trouble. Dad was a tad bit aggravated with me that he had to fix the sink, but they worked much better afterwards.

If I could do it over again, I would just let the candle alone and watch the yellow-orange flame burn the wick ever-so-slowly and flicker occasionally as I breathed out. But, I didn't and I'm not going to get a chance to do it again. I did learn to just watch the candles instead of play with them so, lesson learned, I guess.