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# TIME LEAVES FOOTPRINTS

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by Michelle Hardaway

# Time Leaves Footprints



Kent wasn't the kind of student who complained about school. He enjoyed learning, especially when the lesson challenged him to think.



Mrs. Williams pointed to the clock. "Listen carefully."

*Tick... Tick... Tick...*

"It doesn't matter if we're happy, sad, studying, or sleeping," she explained.

"Time keeps moving."



Mrs. Williams taught about remarkable Black men and women whose courage and determination changed history. Kent listened carefully. Every story seemed connected by one simple idea:  
They used their time wisely.



Kent looked down at his notebook, then slowly looked back up.  
His eyes widened. It clicked.  
History wasn't simply about dates.  
It was about choices—the choices people made  
with the time they were given.



After class, Kent couldn't stop thinking. "If people in the past used their time to help others," he wondered, "what should I be doing with mine?" He began seeing history as a guide for the future.



Kent started looking forward to history class. He borrowed books from the library and watched documentaries.

“I didn’t know history was really about people making choices,” he told his friends. “Now I can’t stop learning.”



Kent began asking his grandparents about their childhoods.  
He realized that every family had its own history.  
Every conversation became another piece of the story that shaped who he was.



Kent wanted to do more than learn. He volunteered for service projects and tutored younger students.

Mrs. Williams told him, “History doesn’t just teach us where we’ve been; it helps us decide where we’re going.”



Kent wrote a letter to his future self: "I hope I never waste the time I've been given. I want to keep learning and helping people. One day, I hope someone can learn from the way I lived."



History was being written every single day. As Kent walked out of school, he was determined to make every moment count.

**Moral:** *Use every moment to learn, grow, and help others to become the person you were created to be.*

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Time is one of the  
greatest gifts we are given.  
By learning from history,  
we gain wisdom to make  
better choices today and  
build a brighter future  
tomorrow.

Your past can teach you,  
your present can shape you,  
and your future is created  
by how you choose to  
spend your time.

Use every moment to learn,  
grow, help others, and  
become the person you  
were created to be.



ISBN 978-1-962345-67-8



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