Mentoring Makes a Difference!

When Alex was referred to the Mentoring Makes a Difference Program he was withdrawn and trying to cope with problems far beyond his eight years. The difficulties of his life were taking a toll on his school work and ability to get along well with others to the point where his mother and counselor knew and agreed he needed help. That’s where Kathy Hefflin, Mentoring Coordinator with Prevention Consultants of Missouri, was asked to get involved. She worked with Alex’s mother to get him enrolled and then matched him with a volunteer mentor, Brad, a student at Missouri S&T in Rolla. The two of them quickly got to work.

Over the course of the past year, Brad and Alex have formed a unique bond like many of the Mentoring/Mentee matches in the program. Each week Alex patiently waits for Brad to meet with him and each week Brad is there letting Alex know he is important. Through Brad’s mentorship, Alex has increased his success not only in his schoolwork, but he has also gained noticeable self-confidence. Brad and Alex’s relationship clearly demonstrates that mentoring does make a difference.