

# While I'm waiting...

I wrote a post two days ago, but because it involves a video I need permission to link to and the ones I asked have yet to respond. Well, I don't really know if I've asked them yet or not- if I send an email asking a question, is it asked when I hit the send button or when they read the email? Apparently they are swamped at work right now. Sigh.

So, how about this week then? Well, on Monday I drove to Crystal Lake to observe a job photographing cars for online/magazine classifieds. While this sort of job is done by one person at any given dealership (or rather, group of dealerships) there were two there I was able to observe and question since one was in training. Training? I wasn't told about that, or the meager \$250/week during such training, but hey- it's \$250/week more than what I made over the last several summers. I guess it's roughly equivalent to an \$8/hr fulltime job, but only when training. After that, it's \$7/car commission. The ones I observed do around 100 cars a week, so that's \$700 per week right there. I called the owner back Wednesday and said I was still interested, and will meet with him next week.

Tuesday I felt like I was in uniform with the rest of the kids as I subbed in 4th grade. You see, the school I was at has a dress code (the only one in any of the districts I'm in as far as I know, well besides the standard stuff like no exposed midriffs, no beer t-shirts, etc). They can wear red or blue polo shirts with I suppose certain pants or shorts (not sure of the exact code on the legwear), and I just happened to wear a red polo shirt that day so I ended up matching a third of the class ☐ .At one point during the day all the red-shirts were grouped together in the same general area doing partner work and I just had to comment on it. And for the Trekkie readers, yes we all survived as we weren't on an away mission ☐ .It was a pretty enjoyable day.

Wednesday I was in another elementary school subbing for an MI (mentally impaired) teacher. He had eight kids, mostly 6th grade, so they were in their last days at this school. So was the teacher apparently as he will be retiring after this year. In fact, there seem to be half a dozen retirees-to-be at this supersized district school- When parking that morning I saw no less than six reserved spots for retiring teachers, including the teacher I subbed for. I didn't park in his spot, but I wonder if I should have? Back to the class, Ironically, the largest student there was one of the 5th grade girls. It was mostly a day of simple things like alphabetizing words, identifying letters and coins, and reading a simple book with them. The end of the day had the students making predictions on how many blocks the kids could stack in a minute, then seeing how good their predictions were. There was one who liked making predictions of forty-something or seventy-something, even after seeing the last student stack less than 20. Well, I said what sort of class this is. They also made cards for the teacher which is how I really discovered he was retiring since I had mostly ignored the names on the reserved parking signs on the way in.

Today saw me back in supersized district for 7th grade language arts. For the first time in a long time, I saw one of my former students from church in one of the three block periods I had. This school apparently has an abundance of teachers as the average class size was only 15 students. In junior high. This would seem to me to be the probably first place for cutbacks if they have any for next year from our sagging economy. The students listened to a reading of [Rikki-Tikki-Tavi](#) by [Rudyard Kipling](#), which I just now discovered while finding these Wikipedia links is actually a short story in [The Jungle Book](#), which likewise I never knew until now is a short story collection rather than a full novel. I knew the movies were based on the book of course, I just always thought it was a novel- you learn something new every day! Of course, never having read the book this was the first time reading

this story for me as well.

So that catches me up for now. Hopefully I can move that one post from drafts tomorrow, just as soon as I get the permission I'm sure they'll give once they have a chance to respond to my email.