

KIDS ARE QUICK

TEACHER: Maria, go to the map and find North America ...

MARIA: Here it is.

TEACHER:

Correct. Now class, who discovered America?

CLASS: Maria.



TEACHER: John, why are you doing your math multiplication on the floor?

JOHN: You told me to do it without using tables.



TEACHER: Glenn, how do you spell "crocodile?"

GLENN: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L

TEACHER: No, that's wrong.

GLENN: Maybe it's wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.

TEACHER: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?

DONALD: H I J K L M N O.

TEACHER: What are you talking about?

DONALD: Yesterday you said it's H to O.



TEACHER: Winnie, name one important thing we have today that we didn't have ten years ago.

WINNIE: Me!

TEACHER: Glenn, why do you always get so dirty?

GLENN: Well, I'm a lot closer to the ground than you are.

TEACHER: Millie, give me a sentence starting with "I."

MILLIE: I is ...

TEACHER: No, Millie ... Always say, "I am."

MILLIE: Alright ... "I am the ninth letter of the alphabet."

I

TEACHER: George

Washington not only chopped down his father's cherry tree, but also admitted it. Now, Louie, do you know why his father didn't punish him?



LOUIS: Because George still had the axe in his hand.

TEACHER: Now, Simon, tell me frankly, do you say prayers before eating?

SIMON: No sir, I don't have to, my mom is a good cook.

TEACHER: Clyde, your composition on "My Dog" is exactly the same as your brother's. Did you copy his?

CLYDE: No, sir. It's the same dog.



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The *Emma Maersk*, a container ship built in Denmark in 2006, carries some 11,000 containers (each 8' wide x 8.5' high x 20' long) primarily from China to markets in other parts of the world. Powered by a 14 cylinder Wärtsilä engine, which produces 109,000 hp, the ship is said to have a maximum speed of 31 knots/hr., but probably cruises at 25 knots/hr., making her the fastest container ship in the world. She is also the largest working ship in the world at 1,300' long with a 180' beam. She has a crew of only 13, with room for 30 (maybe 17 passengers are anticipated). As a comparison in size, the *USS Enterprise* aircraft carrier is 1,123' long.

Containers are an interesting way to transport most goods; a development that happened in your author's lifetime. Ships, such as the *Emma Maersk*, are designed to carry only containers. As the containers come off the ship, they can be loaded two high on railroad flatcars and transported over land, or loaded onto a semi-truck (close to the same height and width) and carried over the road.

One wonders how many of those containers leaving China are destined for Wal-Mart.

Alex Chisholm



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