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Something to Think About -- Screens and Savers

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Something to Think About — Screens and Savers

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Sometimes I have invested time in finding appropriate screen savers that change my life. Yesterday I had a pop-up screen saver — just a promotional — that really transfixed my eyes. There was a deep woods scene with a wonderful creek running through it, bordered by rocks encrusted with yellow-green lichens, succulent to the tongue of the soft skinned doe grazing nearby. She was quietly nibbling the greenery and enjoying the rare flavor of newborn leaves dripping with the mist of the slightly shrouded undergrowth. While I was falling into a deep reverie, various colored butterflies came fluttering by, dancing in the air and stopping briefly to taste the small flowers underfoot. I would have preferred to visualize the scene without the butterflies because their bright colors disrupted the visage.

Long ago when I was in my third decade of library work,

I imported a new screen saver called **Felix**. The playful kitten chased a ball of yarn, trailing the soft string all around the screen, then back tracking the yarn into its original ball. **Felix** then began watching a tank of fish, swatting the outside of the bowl until one of the fish jumped out and **Felix** pounced on him, picked him up and put him back in the bowl. He cavorted around the screen and performed routine acts in predictable ways until I started to poke the keys and cause him to dash behind the page. This was an early graphic that was soon replaced by more intriguing and random movements of other characters. How many screen savers today are filled with small tumbles of rushing water or insects moving in the undergrowth? Some folks have cars and other vehicles running about the screen.

Others might choose to dream about snow or Christmas, or people building homes. What have you chosen for your screen? How do

you relax your eyes or brain on those long tedious days of thinking and typing.

I am not a typist and those extra reports or budget sheets sometimes get to me, but the screen savers save me from a cranky day. I love the slide shows of flowers, world landscapes, city views and astronomical events. They each bring change and relaxation to my life. I'm not adept at changing the savers, so I learn to choose wisely and bring that relief from stress we all crave. What do you choose to lighten your day? Have your choices changed the amount of time you can focus on work? Has the kitten or puppy made you smile, just a little? Has the deer or sheep pulled your imagination into the meadow or woods? Have the nebulae swirled you round and round until you have been absorbed into the brilliant colors of the universe? Why not try a few new savers today and line up a myriad of others to take their places at the most opportune moments? It might be just the thing you need to raise your spirits and breathe life back into your lifeless soul. It is certainly something to think about!