

12th-15th October

Interacting with new Developers ...

Michael Meeks <michael.meeks@suse.com>



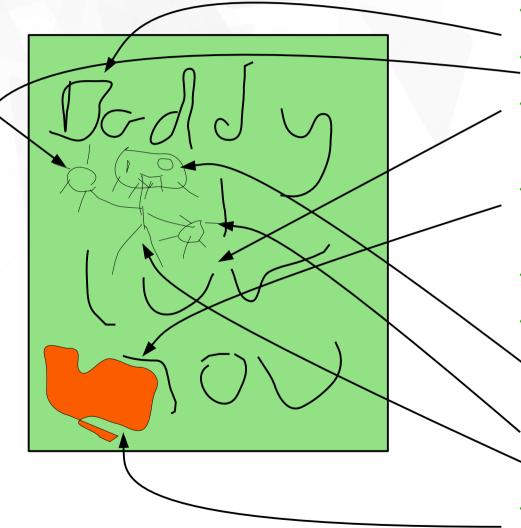
LibreOffice Paris 2011 Conference Presentation Template

How to treat a new developer's code

- Remember this patch is their baby ...
- Priorities / Patterns
 - Nurturing and encouragement
 - Immediate gratification / merging
 - Helping them out with the next step
 - Zero round trip latency
 - Praise/Criticism/Praise sandwich
- Anti-patterns
 - Extensive public criticism of babies, better-but-not-perfect
 - Asking open-ended / vague / hard-for-you-to-answer questions: "does it defurbulate VCL's crudgenickle sklep ?"
 - Non-concrete action mails of vagueness

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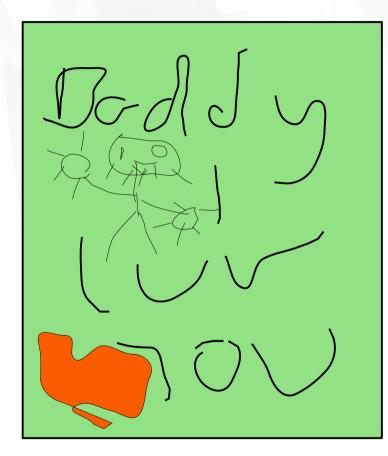
Example one: how not to do it ...



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- 'D' in 'Daddy' looks like a 'B'
- People have five fingers
- Love is spelled 'Love' not 'Luv'
- Y in 'you' looks like a squiggle
- Page layout is terrible.
- Wait is that me !?
 - My eyes are the same size
 - My hands are not potatoes
 - My body is much thicker !
- Hearts are not this shape

Perhaps a more winsome approach ...



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▼ Wow !

You love me :-)

- I love you too …
- Thank you so much for making that for me
 - I'd really like to meet up and practice some of the hard letters sometime
- I particularly like the smile
- I've pushed it with a few minor corrections to master
- Thanks again & looking forward to your next piece.

Why it is worth doing ...

- The friendships & goodness we have together last a lifetime
 - The detail is fairly unimportant really
- The better / kinder you are as a mentor
 - the better your mentees will mentor others
- Bad responses drive people away
 - Bad responses encourage other list participants to respond badly too → cycle of badness.
- The extra effort to be clear & communicate well pays off
 - A well handled patch can be improved later in the next commit.

