

Michael Angier suggests that we improve the things we're already good at doing.

Too many people, he feels, waste valuable time trying to improve skills in their weakest areas, which is not a very effective strategy.

"What will have the *better payoff* and result in more personal satisfaction," he says, "is the development of our best skills and talents. We're better off, and so are the people we serve, if we build on our strengths, rather than trying to improve our weaknesses.

"We each have unique potential, and we'll never actualize it fully by working hard at those things that are not our inherent strengths. So, hone and develop the things you're already good at doing.

"It's not that we shouldn't try to improve in all areas, but rather that we should devote most of our efforts to what will generate the most progress and position ourselves for creating the most value in the world."

This week, make a list of all your attributes: skills, knowledge, attitudes and talents. Determine what you're the best at doing and what you have the potential to master. Then focus on those areas. Pay less attention to what you're NOT good at doing, and more attention to your core competencies.

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