



Mustafa's Story

I wish to go to a Florida theme park

Mustafa, 11
rare disease



Mustafa was born with a rare disease that affects his mobility. Despite his medical challenges, the determined 11-year-old still plays soccer, cricket, and wall ball. He likes learning different soccer skills and aspires to one day meet Lionel Messi! Mustafa loves pizza and iced tea and if he had a superpower, he would want to fly.

Since birth, Mustafa has bravely undergone several spinal surgeries as well as treatments and various physical therapies. Mustafa was thrilled when he learned he qualified for a wish and his excitement grew when he learned that his cousin Sitara also qualified for a wish! The close relatives wanted to experience their wishes together with their families so they both chose to visit a Florida theme park.

On July 18, Mustafa and Sitara joined 38 other wish kids from across Canada, and their families, on a group wish trip that celebrated the 40th anniversary of Make-A-Wish® Canada. The group stayed at Give Kids The World Village, a non-profit resort in Kissimmee, Florida. His parents, Gholam-Abbas and Aqillah, said Mustafa loved spending time at the pool and eating ice-cream every day. The 36-hectare whimsical resort is only available to children with a critical illness and provides an array of fun family activities from mini golf and pool parties to carousel and train rides. For one glorious week, families simply focus on fun.

“We felt very happy,” said his parents. “After a long wait with COVID-19, we were excited to finally get to go on the wish trip.” Mustafa’s older sister, Nilufar, and younger brother, Amir, also had a memorable experience. The wish trip offered the entire family an opportunity to unwind and spend quality time with one another.

Hope is essential for children with critical illnesses, and its life-changing power is unlocked when wishes like Mustafa’s are granted. Together we can continue to transform lives, one wish at a time.