

## ODYSSEY JUNIOR



## ORACLE



Karen Dreyfuss, Odyssey Junior Coordinator  
 Emily Auerbach, UW Odyssey Project Co-Director/Founder; Oracle Editor  
 Beth McMahon, Oracle Designer

karen.dreyfuss@wisc.edu; 608-345-0807  
 emily.auerbach@wisc.edu; 608-712-6321

Thanks to Odyssey Junior instructors and mentors Christina DeMars, Brian Benford, Savion Castro, Albert Watson, Qiana Abanukam, and Takeyla Benton; Volunteer Tutors Eli Pollak, Christina Wagner, Leigh Button, and Emily Brookhyser; Jamie Henke and Virtually Arts; Infant and Toddler Learning Lab's Jenny Saffran, Haley Weaver, Desia Bacon, Melina Knabe, Ellie Breitfeld, and Kelsey Kopiske; Madison Reading Project; Chazen Art Museum; Tess Mulrooney; and Nancy Daly and the Hat Ladies.

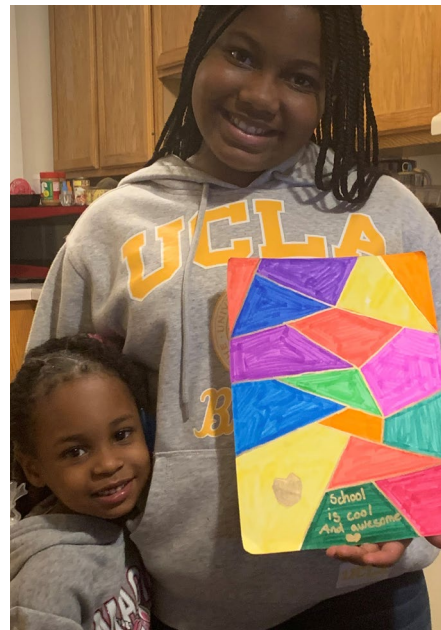


# THINGS YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT US



I was diagnosed with autism December 2019. I'm now working with therapists from Family Path and MMSD. I also have a play teacher who plays with me and brings me toys and books to help me with my learning. **(Aiden)**

My favorite subject is math. I like all the different strategies in math. I know if I keep working on it, I'll be good at it. I'm in 5th grade. **(Ka'Trionna)**



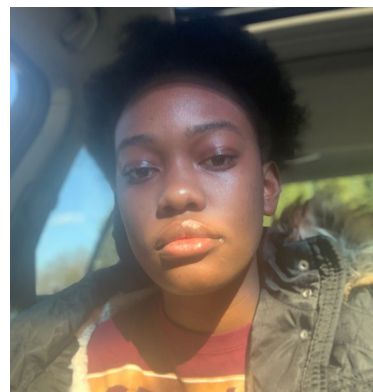
I like to do gymnastics. I can do a backbend and cartwheels. I also have piranhas in my fish tank. **(Aria)**



We have a very playful dog named Capone. He's one year old. He loves the leaves and family walks. He chews toys up. **(De-Aria and Ka-Trionna)**

My favorite color is pink. I love dogs. I really like Disney princesses. **(De-Aria)**

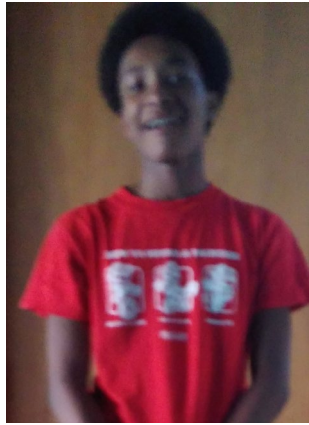
As a family, we love to bake and craft, and the holiday season is the best time for that. We made gingerbread houses together and the best part is eating them together! **(Jonah, Ben, and Harrison)**



I enjoy yoga and like to work out. I also cook, mostly desserts. **(Janiah)**



I ride my bike daily. I go to the gas station with 59 cents to buy a honeybun. **(Samuel)**



I do not like hangers! **(Solomon)**



I got bullied at school by a fifth grade boy. **(Saniya)**



My birthday is sometimes the last day of spring and the first day of summer. **(Stephen)**

My favorite color is red. My favorite animal is a wolf. I like to play games and sports. **(Antoine)**

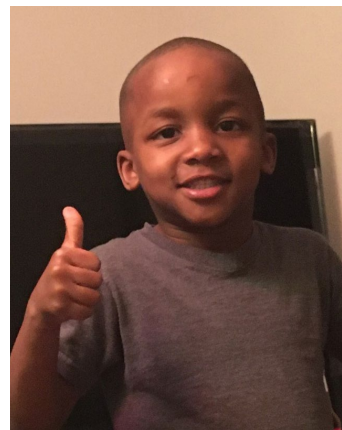
My favorite color is blue and my favorite animal is the tiger. I like to play video games. **(Antonio)**



I love dancing, painting, and jumping. **(Rita)**



I'm four years old. My favorite color is green. I want to be a fire fighter. I like to play with my toys or be on the computer. I clean the house and help my mom out. **(Tristan)**







Valentine's Day is my favorite holiday because of chocolate! On Thanksgiving, the turkey took a long time to cook and my tummy was rumbling. I ate a lot of pie. I get happy when we celebrate holidays.  
**(Lola)**

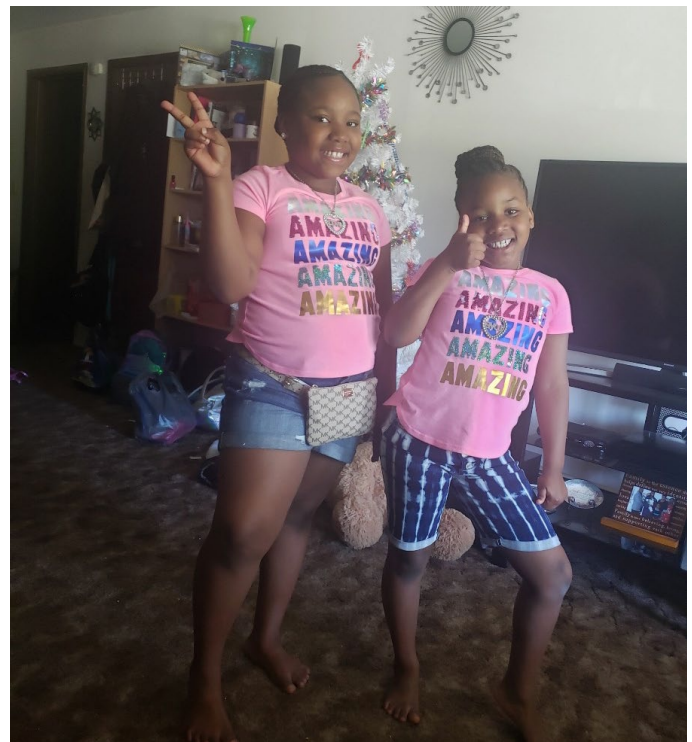
I really like Christmas. I love to sing, eat cookies, watch holiday movies, and unwrap presents.  
**(Zacaria aka Cookie)**



I'm in third grade. My favorite colors are blue and green. I like to go outside and play my Xbox. When I grow up, I want to be a pilot. I'd fly to Texas if I could. Math is my favorite subject. I'm a good gamer and a good singer. I'm the quiet one in my family.  
**(Emery)**

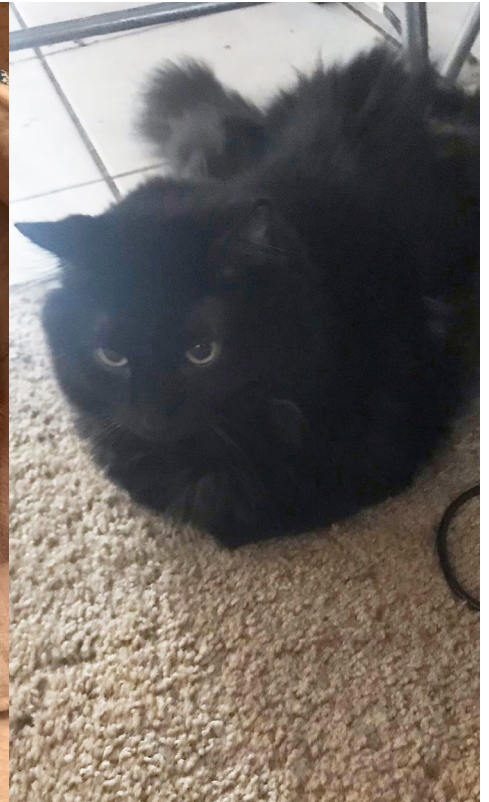
My favorite color is pink. I really like to color. I like to hang out with my family and play games like "Guess Who?" I love to read books, especially the kind that teach you stuff. My favorite animal is the zebra.  
**(Trinity)**

My favorite colors are pink and purple. My favorite seasons are winter and summer. I just turned 10 years old and hope to go to Urban Air to celebrate with pizza, cupcakes, and Kool-Aid. In my free time, I like to draw with my best friend. I really like to do math and play with my friends. My favorite movie is Mr. Peabody and Sherman. **(Cherish)**



# GRATITUDE LISTS

Mommy  
My great grandma  
My grandma  
My grandpa  
Aunts  
Uncles  
Cousins  
Sister  
Stepsister  
Stepbrother  
Stepfather  
Daddy  
My two kitty cats  
My house  
My toys  
My Amazon fire tablet  
**(Aiden)**



Roof over my head  
Food whenever I need it  
New phone  
My job  
Family **(James)**

My mom **(Emery)**

Books  
Family  
Holidays and the fact that Christmas is almost here  
Water  
The ability to eat whenever I want  
Having my own room  
Only girl/daughter  
Alive  
LOVE  
Friends **(Saniya)**



Being alive  
 Mom and Dad  
 Home  
 Food to eat  
 That I am very well taken care of  
 Siblings  
 My cat, Isabelle  
 Friends  
 Ability to go outside  
 Music  
 Bed  
 Being the oldest child  
 That I have responsibilities  
 That I have a job  
 Family (**Samuel**)



Life  
 Food  
 House  
 Roof  
 Basement  
 Kitchen  
 Dining room  
 Coach room  
 Living room  
 Front room  
 My own room  
 Isabelle  
 Entertainment like electronics (**Solomon**)

Having a bed to sleep in  
 A home to be safe in  
 Family  
 Pet cat, Isabelle  
 Food to eat  
 Having the ability and knowledge to cook and prepare food for myself and others  
 Having an amazing personality that is vibrant!  
 Clean water  
 Being able to go outside  
 Board games as an option when it's time to unplug from electronics  
 Winter gear (**Stephen**)

# FAVORITE FOODS

Cheese pizza and ribs **(Aria)**

I like pizza. I really like pepperoni. I also like wings. **(Ka'Trionna)**

I like pepperoni pizza and strawberry ice cream. I love to get nuggets or burgers at McDonald's too. **(De-Aria)**

Cheese pizza, sometimes pepperoni **(Naliyah)**

Cheese pizza **(Layla)**

Pizza from Pizza Hut with pepperoni and sausage **(Cherish)**



Broccoli and cheese and Sonic hot dogs **(Lola)**

Fruit, salads, and potatoes **(Kayd)**

Green beans, pies, and breads **(Kingston)**

Red grapes **(BB)**



We look forward to Chinese take out night! As mom says, nothing beats a good bowl of chicken fried rice and some Crab Rangoon. **(Jonah and Ben)**



Pasta, especially spaghetti and meatballs **(Harrison)**

Popcorn **(Tristan)**



Bacon and eggs **(Cookie)**

Chocolate and bacon **(Christina)**



Spaghetti, sushi, ramen, anything Asian **(Kahliana)**  
Sushi **(Karen)**



Hot chicken (**Zachary, Zay'vion, and Yanayah**)

Buffalo Chicken Sandwich from BB Jack's (**James**)

Orange Chicken (**Janiah**)

Fried chicken tenders and French fries. My favorite fruit is strawberry. (**Rita**)

Fruit and chicken nuggets (**Milani**)

Chicken (**Addie**)

French fries. I like to get the supersize at McDonald's. (**Cavadion**)

All my mom's cooking including hot dogs, hamburgers, and fries (**Trinity**)

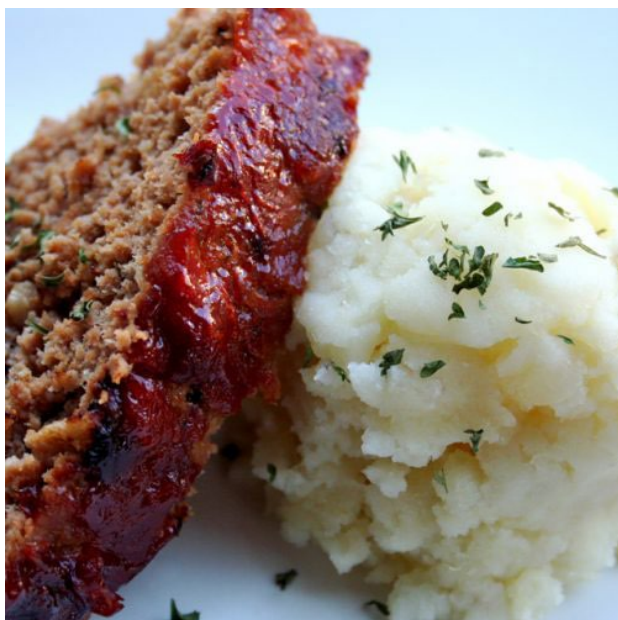


Seafood. I like to get the combo at Mad Seafood Boiler with crab, shrimp, potatoes, and corn. I also really like hot wings. (**Jayda**)

Chili's the restaurant (**Brian**)

Macaroni (**Nolan**)

Corn dogs, mashed potatoes, and macaroni (**Emery**)



My favorite food is mashed potatoes, meatloaf with the dressing all around it. The drink on the side. Cut the meatloaf down the middle... it just falls apart. The gravy on top and drizzled all around the side is my favorite with my meatloaf. (**Samuel**)



# OUR PARENTS IN ODYSSEY



I think it's pretty cool my mom is in Odyssey and back in college because not many people can do that. My mom is kind, generous, caring, smart, and empathetic. We like to watch TV together. One of our favorite movies is The Wiz.

**(James, Thedora's son)**

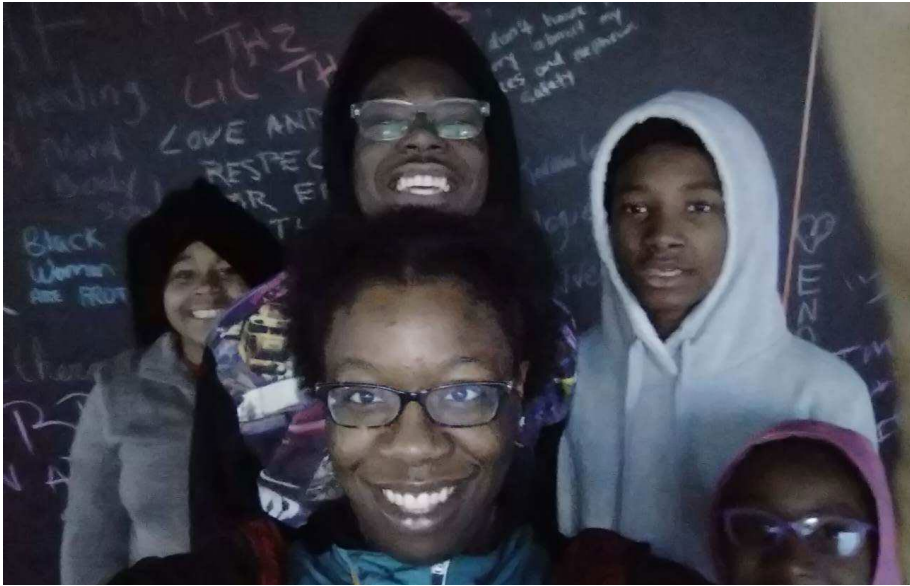
I think it's great my mom was at Madison College, but being at the UW now is amazing. I'm happy for her. **(Janiah, Thedora's daughter)**

I think it's really good for my mom to take classes and get back in school. She can reach all her goals. I love spending time with her on the weekends when she takes us to fun places like Urban Air or the store.

**(Ka-Trionna, Cashae's daughter)**







My mother is in Odyssey and she LOVES it. She is going to school for business and getting credit towards her degree and graduation. She is so grateful she is being allowed to go back to school. My mother is GRATEFUL for kids, completing her homework, and her assignments. **(Stephen, Sarah's son)**

I think it's really nice my mom is in Odyssey this year. She left college when I was born. She's more focused now and really keeping things together. I hope she can build up her business and be successful.  
**(Kahliana, Feather's daughter)**



I feel good about my mom in Odyssey because I wish that she can have everything she needs and everything she wants. **(Cherish, Stephaney's daughter)**



# 10-10-10

*10 desires, 10 things you are grateful for, 10 things you love to do*



*Desires:*

- » continue to do well in school
- » get better at dancing
- » do the things I've been wanting to do when Covid ends
- » learn a new language

*Most Grateful For:*

- » family
- » food
- » a place to live
- » jobs/money
- » health

*Things I Love To Do:*

- » spend time with my family
- » travel
- » go to concerts
- » dance
- » listen to music  
**(Miraya)**



*Desires:*

- » Move to Korea
- » Design video games
- » Work on cars
- » Save a lot of money
- » Get a job I love
- » Get another pet
- » Move into an apartment
- » Illustrate a book/manga
- » Make a worldwide famous video game
- » Speak at least 8 languages fluently

*Most Grateful for:*

- » Friends
- » Family
- » Cars
- » Video games
- » Food
- » Soccer
- » Volleyball
- » Energy drinks
- » Food
- » Anime

*Things I Love to do:*

- » Play video games
- » Sleep
- » Eat food
- » Learn new languages
- » Play sports
- » Binge anime
- » Play music
- » Pull all nighters
- » Dance
- » Photography **(Kahliana)**



*Desires:*

- » Learn to drive
- » Find a Job
- » Complete all college-related things
- » Eat healthier
- » Work out a lot
- » Figure out life's career
- » Focus on myself
- » Become spiritual
- » Learn to cook
- » Become independent

*Most Grateful For:*

- » My family
- » My health
- » My Friends
- » God
- » Myself
- » My environment
- » My accomplishments
- » My knowledge
- » My freedom
- » My abilities and talents

*Things I love to do:*

- » Watch Netflix
- » Play basketball
- » Play board games
- » Play video games
- » Get dressed and ready
- » Sleep
- » Eat
- » Be peaceful
- » Be productive
- » Plan things out **(Jayda)**

# COURAGE



Courage means “You got this!” It also means hopeful. I was brave when I held my friend Beauty’s hand on her first airplane flight to Atlanta. I have been on a plane ride before. **(Saniya)**

Courage means that I am brave. Take on my fears. I was brave to do the right thing when one person was slacking, and I did the work behind them. **(Samuel)**

My mom showed courage when she took someone in and helped them find a home. **(Janiah)**

When I was young, my mom showed courage by helping a relative from Chicago. She came to live with us, but soon was verbally abusive and used things without paying or caring about how much she used. My mom was brave when she made the relative leave our home. **(James)**

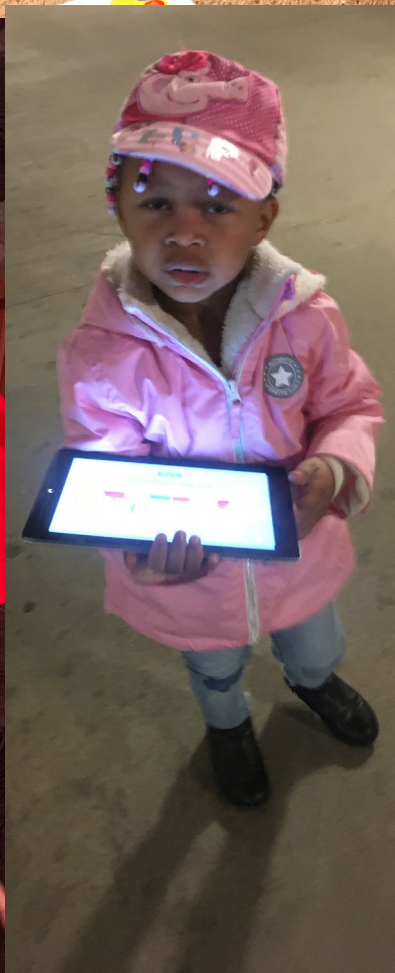
Courage means somebody I look up to. I was brave when I went to school in Africa and then America. I was in Nigeria and then I came to Wisconsin. I didn’t speak English and it was hard. Now, I speak three languages: African English, Ebo, and American English. **(Cherish)**





# PRESCHOOLERS ZOOM INTO LEARNING

Even Odyssey Junior children ages two to five have found ways to connect online this semester. Some have spent Monday and Wednesday mornings with Professor Jenny Saffran and her team of graduate students who are studying language development. Preschoolers who are missing out on play dates and playgrounds have enjoyed having a chance to talk to others, dance, sing, rhyme, and learn.







Odyssey Junior preschoolers have made objects out of the Play Doh and Wikki Stix that the Odyssey Project mailed to them, played "I Spy" on the screen, learned about the four seasons and weather, celebrated the colors of the rainbow, sampled musical instruments from the strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion sections of the orchestra, guessed everyday sounds like vacuum cleaners and flushing toilets, practiced movements like marching, skipping, and stretching, and read books together such as *The Snowy Day*, *Animal Boogie*, and *Everybody Goes on a Bear Hunt*. "Wow!" and "Cool!" and "I'm thankful for my classes" were some of the expressions overheard this fall.

