

ODYSSEY JUNIOR



ORACLE



Karen Dreyfuss, Director, Odyssey Junior
 Emily Auerbach, UW Odyssey Project Co-Director/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 Odyssey '07, Savion Castro, Albert Watson '08, Qiana Holmes-Abanukam, and Takeyla Benton '10; Madison Reading Project; The Office of Childcare and Family Resources; Madison Public Library; CEOs of Tomorrow; Slow Food team Margaret Nellis, Conner Raboine, Libby Schnepf, Hannah Kasun, Alexis Schnauk, and Julia Grande; Tutor Austin Triggs; William Tishler, Jr., videography; and Early Childhood team Jenny Saffran, Haley Weaver, Kelsey Kopiske, Desia Bacon, Melina Knabe, and Ellie Breitfeld.

WHAT DID YOU ENJOY ABOUT ODYSSEY JUNIOR THIS YEAR?

I liked the songs. **(Kingston)**

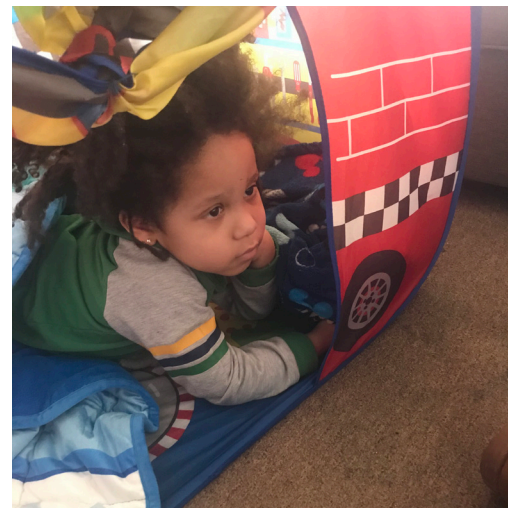
I liked the book about ducklings.
(Kayd)



My favorite part of Odyssey Junior was making new friends. **(Cookie)**

My favorite part of Odyssey Junior was drawing and doing artwork. **(Lola)**

I had fun. It was nice meeting friends like Emmy. **(Aiden)**



I really enjoyed Odyssey; although it was online, it was still super fun. I really enjoyed learning about black



history through the book *Stamped* and I also enjoyed learning about women's history which, like black history, isn't represented much at school. However, my favorite part of Odyssey this year was to be able to still do Odyssey. Even though it's online, it felt like we were still in the classroom. I'm really proud of myself for being able to adapt to online learning and for staying safe with this pandemic going around, although thanks to the pandemic, I was able to spend more time with my family. **(Shadavien)**

Everything! My favorite was having space to just talk about life, family, and home stuff. **(Janiah)**

I enjoyed making beats and music for the classes. **(Langston)**



I like my classes because we play songs like “Let’s Say Goodbye,” “Itsy-Bitsy Spider,” and “Animal Boogie.” When we do the “Shake Your Sillies Out Song,” I shake my sillies out and stretch my sleepies away.

When it’s time for my class, I listen. We did Play-Doh, Wikki Sticks, a white board, and magnet letters. We read books like Chicka Chicka Boom Boom. We do I

Spy games and find animals like elephants, flamingos, and lions. I said, “What’s big and blue?” and the answer was “a whale.”

I like to talk to the teachers—Jenny, Karen, Haley, Kelsey, Ellie, and Melina. And sometimes there’s kids like Aiden, Nate, Kadyn, Kingston, Daniel, Abraham, Brian, Jayla, and Naquari. I feel happy because I like all the teachers and kids. I love talking to them. I love all the things we do. **(Emmy)**

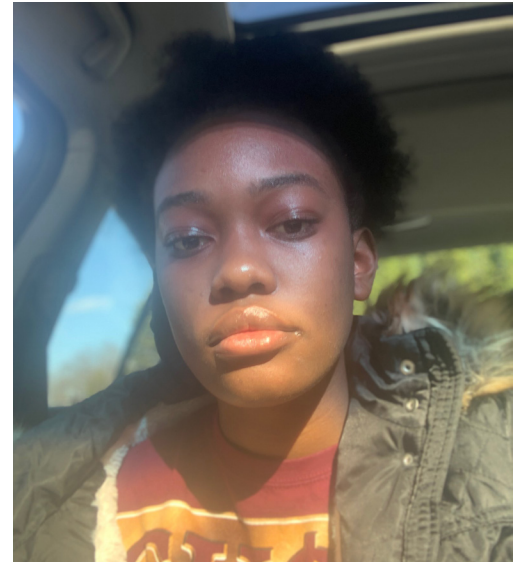
Hi my name is Jayden and what I enjoy about Odyssey Junior is that we get to play games and we get to talk about our day. I like this because we get to tell

someone about our day. One of my favorite things about Odyssey is that the teachers are super nice and creative and super fun to talk to and I love going there. **(Jayden)**



My favorite part of Odyssey is creative space when I get to draw different things. **(Antoine)**

My favorite part of Odyssey is winning gift cards. **(Antonio)**



WHAT I LEARNED THIS YEAR



I learned...lots of math. I love math. We do subtraction and always count on our fingers to figure out the answer.

(Aria)

I love to learn languages. This year, I have been studying Korean, Vietnamese, Thai, Japanese, French, and Spanish. I think French is the hardest,

but Japanese is also tricky. I hope to be fluent in all these languages in the next year. I also opened my own small business to combat racism and won an award through my CEOs of Tomorrow program. **(Kahliana)**



I learned how to blend words together. I also learned that you can switch a number but the equation stays the same, like $3+4=7$ or $4+3=7$. **(Kingston)**

I can read. I can also flip and bounce on my trampoline. I like to swing. One day, I went so high I hit my head on a tree branch. **(Kayd)**

I am happy for my family and glad to learn ballet. **(Layla)**

I am happy for my family, friends, and the elephant. **(Naliyah)**



I learned how to be more respectful and adaptable to my changing environment. I've learned how to make different beats for the class soundtrack. **(Langston)**

I learned how to play viola. I've also learned how to communicate with people in different ways and work through different environments. I've become very creative in my communication. **(Janiah)**



We learned how to take care of our chickens, Frank and Midnight. You have to give them food and fresh water every day. You have to pick them up by their feet. **(Kayd and Kingston)**

I learned how to write and spell my name. I know letters and the sounds they make. I learned about other kids

and my teachers. I know a lot about animals. Lions and tigers are my favorite. I like to visit the penguins and the porcupine at the zoo. **(Daniel)**

I like the lion the best. I like to watch the big polar bear swim in the water. **(Abraham)**



I learned how to play with friends "socially distanced" this year. We like to play hopscotch, ball, or go to the park. I like in-person school because all my friends are coming back. **(Cherish)**

I learned if you cheat you'll never get ahead. I also learned $4+4=8$. I like math. **(Trinity)**

I got better at coloring this year. I learned my numbers and letters. I even won an award. **(Tristan)**

I learned how to use computers. I learned to appreciate what I have. **(Emery)**



I really like to paint. I paint on rocks, paper, and canvas. My favorite colors are pink and purple. I also learned how to stay in the lines better when I color. **(Jayla)**

This year, I learned how to get better at video games. I'm also more mature now that I'm an uncle. **(Jayvon)**



I've played a lot of basketball this year. I'm better at writing on a Chromebook. I have learned to clean a lot better. **(Michael)**

This year, I learned how to do my hair and makeup. I can also cook and drive now. I learned financial skills and tips. I learned how to say no and put myself before others. I know that doing what's best for me can't affect other people's focus on me. **(Jayda)**



I used to be scared of swimming and now all I want to do is swim! **(A'Marion)**

I am proud of doing everything all my teachers ask of me, which is expected. I'm proud that I got to go to all of my classes and do all of my work. I wanna say that my dream is to become a marine biologist. This is my dream because only 5% of the world's ocean has been discovered and I believe that we can find even more species of animals, and we could possibly bring back a species. **(Jayden)**





I learned that online school gives the students less work than being in school.
(Samuel)

What I learned... While I was away at my BFF's house for the weekend, someone went in my room and made a BIG mess! BROTHERS!!! **(Saniya)**

I learned that steel and iron can rust faster in air. I just beat the entire game of new Super Mario Deluxe. I am trying my BEST to even wake up to even go to school...I love staying home. I want to be a famous Youtuber!
(Solomon)

I learned that my mom signed me up for in-person school. I'm proud of myself. I make myself happy! That I was able to attend UW Odyssey. I want to get my own restaurant one day! **(Stephen)**

I learned how to add fractions with whole numbers, add decimals, and human growth and development. In writing, I learned about adverbs and adjectives. I learned about technology in science. **(Ka'Trionna)**

I learned my ABCs and my numbers. I also learned how to write my name. **(De'Aria)**

This year I learned how to knit.
(Antoine)

I learned to wash my hands all of the time. **(Antonio)**



I have learned how to high five and try new foods. I want to be as big as my big bros.
(Harrison)



I learned to walk when I turned 9 months old this year. **(A'khi)**



I learned numbers and how to do math. **(Naqari)**

I learned about landforms and words with double O's. **(Nathaniel)**

I worked on fractions and decimals. **(Sariyah)**



I learned how to write a proper essay this year. I also learned about resumes and taxes. **(James)**



FUTURE GOALS

I want to be a scientist. I like science. When you put water in a cup and then by a mirror, you can make a pencil look like it's bending. I like to do experiments. **(Kayd)**

I want to go to college in Korea or attend UCLA where my mom started school. I'm interested in studying computer programming or mechanics. I would love to travel anywhere outside the country, but especially China where I have friends. **(Kahliana)**



I want to be a scientist when I grow up. I like science. I really like to build stuff and test all the things. I have crystals that are different colors because I added chemicals to them. **(Kingston)**

My dream is to become a ballerina. **(De'Aria)**

My dream is to become a YouTuber and a nail artist. **(Ka'Trionna)**

I plan to become a lawyer. I'm good at talking with people and I want to help save lives. I would also like to get my doctorate. I was going to be a photographer and travel because I hate being static, but I think I'll be a good lawyer. **(Janiah)**

My goal in life is to become an architect and future video game streamer. **(Shadavien)**

I want to be a singer. **(Tyasiah)**



I want to be a ballerina. I'm going to twirl. I'll wear a tutu and ballet shoes. When I grow up, I will be kind and hug people all the time. When I grow up, I want a bigger bed. I'll be a mom and take care of my kids. I'll do art with them and read books to them. I will be a chef and wear a chef's hat. I will cook spaghetti and meatballs. **(Emmy)**

When I grow up, I think I want to be a cheerleader,



kind of like a dance cheerleader. I would wear a long shirt, like a skirt. My mom used to be a cheerleader. I remember she used to dance and do flips. I can do gymnastic flips and I am a really good dancer. When I get older, I have always wanted to go to the park with friends and family and spend time with my friends, Myla, Tina, Jordan, and Pretty Mama...when I grow up. **(Aria)**



I want to be a cop or a pro football player when I grow up. **(Zach)**

I want to be a drag queen when I'm older. **(Zay'vion)**

I want to be a chef or a doctor when I grow up. **(Yanayah)**

I want to be a cop or a firefighter. **(Nolan)**



When I grow up, I want to take care of animals. I want to be sure they get the flu shot and brush their teeth. I want them to be healthy. I want to be a vet. **(Daniel)**

I want to be a doctor that works with kids when I grow up. My auntie is a pediatrician and I want to be one too. **(Cherish)**

I want to work hard so I can play hard when I grow up. **(Trinity)**

I want to be a pilot and travel. I would also like to build my mom a house. **(Emery)**



I'd like to be a chef when I grow up. **(Jayvon)**

This year, I raised my GPA to 3.0 in virtual school. My goal is to have more time to keep getting better grades. **(Michael)**

First, I want to go to college and study either physics or something with history. I don't know yet, but I know I will to play college football and make it to the NFL. **(Langston)**

I want to beat Christina in a card game. I also want to go to national champions for wrestling and Yu-Gi-Oh. If not, by the end of this year, I want to make it to at least 150 pounds for power lifting squats. I'm at 135, I think I can make it. This year, I learned how to play better card games. I'm going to go to the military, work on cars and get some money, get a retirement home for my mom, make her a little cabin somewhere, probably get myself a decent house, not too big, a couple thousand, pay some debt, taxes... I'm probably going to hang my favorite pictures on the wall. **(Z)**

I would like to learn how to drive. I'm almost 16. **(James)**



I'm learning karate. My goal is to be a black belt and martial art master like my grandpa was. **(Jonah)**

I want to do nails and hair. **(Sariyah)**

One of my future dreams is for my family to have our own house. **(Antonio)**

One of my future goals is to be successful making a lot of money. **(Antoine)**

I would like to be a painter. **(Nathaniel and Naqari)**



COLLEGE CORNER: JAYDA BECOMES A BADGER!

Our whole Odyssey team congratulates Odyssey Junior participant Jayda, daughter of Shiquita, for graduating from high school while her mother graduates from the Odyssey Project Class of 2021. Jayda, one of three Odyssey Junior winners in our Odyssey "Why Vote?" contest last October, applied to seven colleges this spring and was accepted into all seven! She has decided to attend the prestigious UW-Madison on a full-ride scholarship. This fall, she plans to live in the dorms on campus.



Jayda shares with us, "I'm looking forward to expanding my learning and receiving more knowledge. I'm looking forward to meeting new people and trying new things. I'm really excited to start my next chapter. I have received the Women in Focus scholarship, Rotary scholarship, Madison East Rotary scholarship, Boys & Girls YOTY, and more. Thank you so much!"



Shiquita comments, "I'm thankful to God for my daughter to live the dream I always wanted. I'm beyond blessed. She's a great child and has done exceedingly well. I'm so proud of her."

Congratulations, Jayda! We look forward to hearing updates about your experience as a Badger in a future "College Corner" for next year's Odyssey Junior class. Graduates of Odyssey Junior have found their voices and self-confidence and have gone on to receive degrees from UW-Madison and other universities. We are so proud of them!

CREATIVE CORNER

My name is Omyma
 Omyma in Classical Arabic means
 "a little mom."
 I'm my mom's best friend
 I am my mom's battle
 I'm my mom's moonbeam.
 Thank you, Mom, you had sweet dreams,
 But you have often subscribed to them
 to allow me to live mine.
 You are my most beautiful certainty
 My guide in existence
 My courage without rage
 Mom, your love is my best weapon
 for me to build.
 I love you, Mom.
(Omyma, as imagined by mother, Souad)

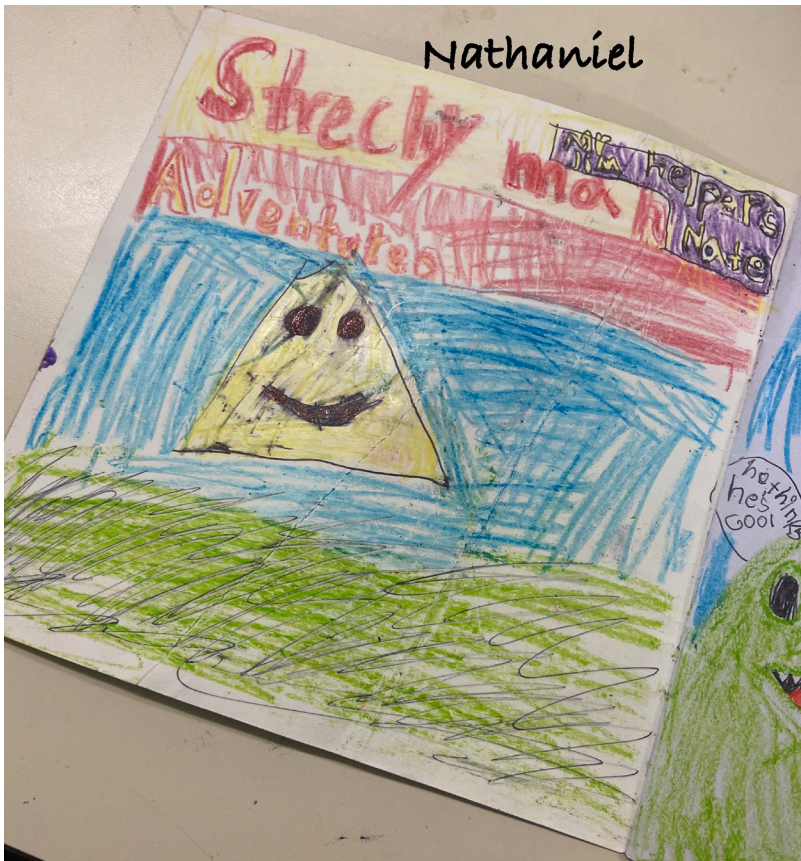


What made me happy was
 when I spent a week in the
 Wisconsin Dells with my family.

I ordered something big online
 with my own money. **(Antoine)**

What made me happy is that I
 earned a lot of things.

I bought my own cell phone.
(Antonio)



Nathaniel



Jayla



Janiyah

