

Make-A-Wish®

SAN DIEGO



I wish to have a bounce house

Yami, 10
leukemia

When Yami was younger, she had a small bounce house that brought her much joy. Over time and endless sun exposure, the thin material of the house soon fell apart, and it would be years later that she would remember the joy it brought her. When Yami met with her wish granters, they asked what her favorite day might look like. She immediately thought of her recent 10th birthday party that included a bounce house and shared that she wants, "to feel like it's [my] birthday every day." So, she wished for a commercial bounce house -- one that had thicker walls and would outlast the constant sun cover; this time hers would be built to last.

Yami has been in and out of the hospital since she was diagnosed with leukemia in January of 2022. With long days of treatment, often lasting from morning to evening, Yami would pass the time by embracing her creative side, like teaching herself to crochet from watching videos, and

doing arts and crafts. So, when it came time to choose her wish, she used her creative talents to help her wish granters understand her vision by drawing a picture to use as inspiration of a princess castle complete with a slide and water features. When Yami's wish day arrived, wish granters, and Make-A-Wish staff joined forces to create a fun diversion activity away from her home so that they could make her wish a reality. Yami was chauffeured to the Fairmont Grand Del Mar resort where executive chefs, who heard about Yami's love for cooking, were waiting to host her for the afternoon to show her how they prepare desserts for their guests.

Yami's mom shared that her daughter sent pictures from her wish day to all of her friends and teachers and that she jumped in her new bounce house until it was time to go to bed. The following day, Yami endured more than nine hours of chemotherapy and spent the weekend feverish and in pain because of her treatments. But this time, hope remained in the form of an inflatable princess castle that she designed; standing as a powerful reminder that there are many better days ahead for her and still much joy to be had ... which is the true impact of a wish granted.