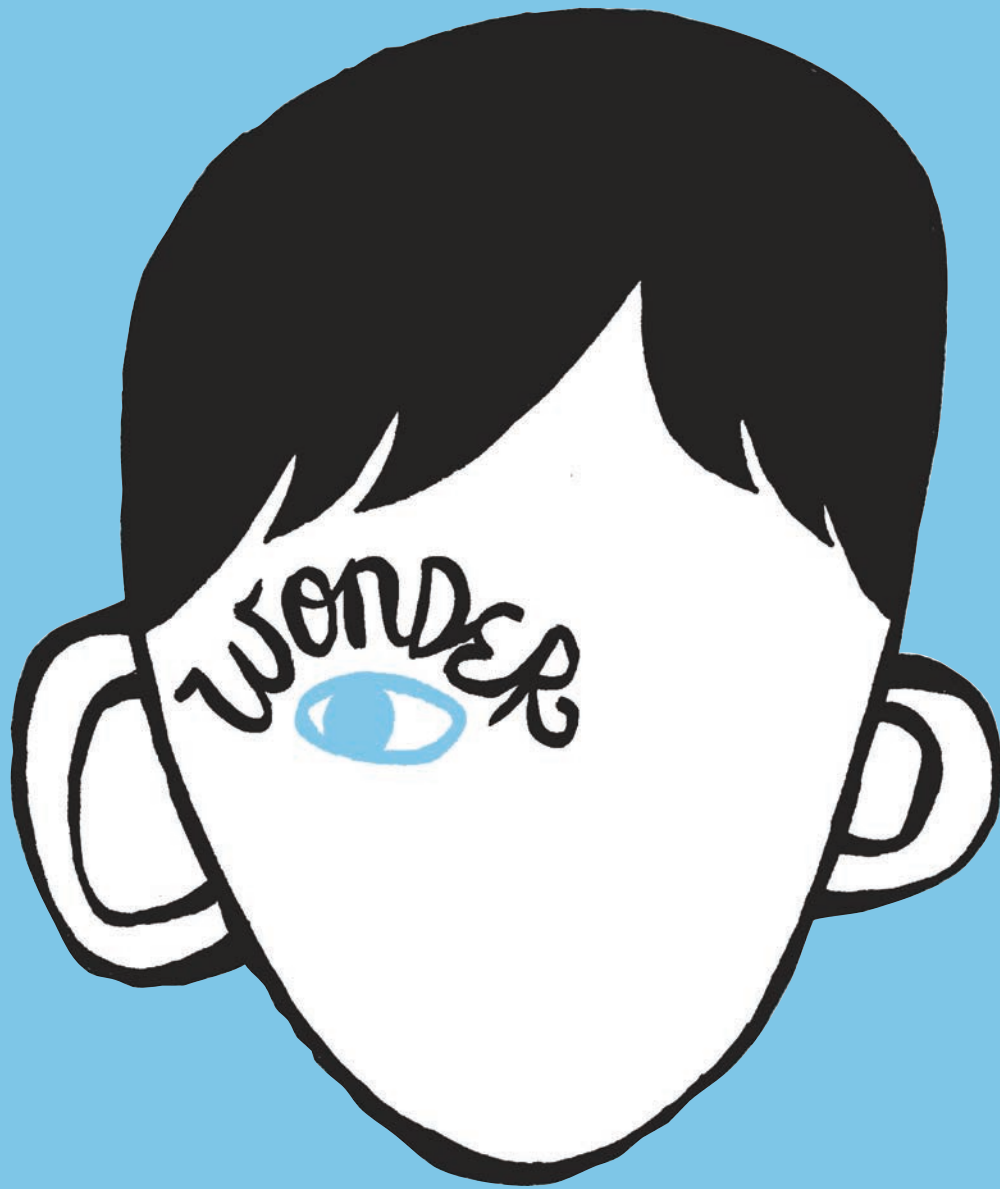


ccawonderkids



children's craniofacial association: empowering and giving hope to individuals and families affected by facial differences



choosekind



nathan anderson

Age: 7

Craniofacial syndrome: Treacher Collins syndrome

State: Michigan

What do you want to be when you grow up?

I want to be a scientist and work in a museum.

What is your favorite subject in school?

Science, because we get to do fun projects.

What is your hobby or talent? I am good at basketball and drawing.

How do you feel when people stare at you?

A little sad.

What do you wish people would do instead? I wish they would ask questions in a nice way.

How many surgeries have you had? Nine

What's the worst thing about surgery? Getting an IV is the worst thing.

Have you ever been bullied? A little. I told them about my syndrome.

Has the popularity of *Wonder* changed your life? In what way? I

have talked to many classes about facial differences. I get to teach people about being kind.

What is the most important thing readers should remember about *Wonder*? Choose kind.

If you could do one thing to change the world and make it better, what would it be? I would make it a hot dog party every day.

Who is your hero and why? Mom and Dad, because they feed me and buy all of my stuff.

What is your proudest moment? I am proud of the first time I made a basket in my basketball game.

owen anderson

Age: 11
SuperSib
State: Michigan

What do you want to be when you grow up?

Physical therapist

What is your favorite subject in school?

Science. It is fun, and we do a bunch of cool things.

What is your hobby or talent?

Running is my talent, and my hobby is playing and watching football.

How many siblings do you have?

One

How has your life been positively affected by having a sibling with a craniofacial difference?

We get to go to the CCA Retreats, and I get to talk to groups about spreading the message of kindness. We also get to go to lots of sports games and events. I have learned to be nicer to people, and treat them nicely based on who they are.

Do you ever feel overlooked?

No

How do you feel about surgeries that change your sibling's face and appearance?

I just want the surgeries to help him. How he looks isn't a concern to me.

Have you ever had to explain or defend your sibling?

Yes. One time at school, there was a kid who was being rude to Nathan. I walked over to him and talked to him about Treacher Collins and not being so rude.

How do you respond when you see someone staring at your sibling or family?

Sometimes I get mad, but I usually keep calm about it. Sometimes I will say "Hi" to them if they are staring at him.

If you could do one thing to change the world and make it better, what would it be?

I would make everyone choose to be kind to one another and not be so mean.

Who is your hero and why?

My mom and dad because they support me in anything I want to do. They always help me do what I want to do.



jayden gonzales

Age: 14

Craniofacial syndrome: Goldenhar syndrome

State: New Mexico

What do you want to be when you grow up?

Because of my love for animals, I want to be a veterinarian when I grow up.

What is your favorite subject in school? My favorite subjects in school are art and math.

What is your hobby or talent? My hobbies are riding horses, reading and music. My talents are drawing and writing.

How do you feel when people stare at you? I feel uncomfortable when people stare at me.

What do you wish people would do instead? I wish people would do something like ask me a question.

How many surgeries have you had? I have had 29 surgeries so far.

What's the worst thing about surgery? The worst thing about surgery is waking up with pain after surgery and not knowing what happened.

Have you ever been bullied? Yes, I have been bullied at my old school and I told one of my teachers what the bully was doing and saying.

Has the popularity of *Wonder* changed your life? The popularity of *Wonder* has changed my life in a happy and unforgettable way.

In what way? I feel it makes others more aware of my craniofacial difference.

What is the most important thing readers should remember about *Wonder*? The most important things that readers should remember about *Wonder* is that you should be kind to all children and adults who have facial differences and you should not be mean to anyone that has facial differences.

If you could do one thing to change the world and make it better, what would it be? If I could do one thing to change the world and make it better, it would be to help people that have disabilities, disorders, syndromes, or special needs just to feel like they fit in anywhere!



Who is your hero and why? My mom is my hero because she is so tough! She's always been my constant, my rock—and endlessly fights for me and my rights. She's my greatest advocate.

What is your proudest moment? My proudest moment is that I have more friends at my current middle school, and my friends are not mean to me. Also I was able to get my Sugar Skull self-portrait on a Tell Me A Story T-shirt for **Peach's Neet Feet** which will help other craniofacial families get to their appointments.

liam gonzales

Age: 12

SuperSib

State: New Mexico

What do you want to be when you grow up?

I want to be a doctor when I grow up.

What is your favorite subject in school? My favorite subject in school is science.

What is your hobby or talent? My talent is that I can play the trombone. I play in the school band.

How many siblings do you have? I have three sisters. All three are older than I am.

How has your life been positively affected by having a sibling with a craniofacial difference? I have traveled the United States, and have gotten to see many different places most kids don't get to.

Do you ever feel overlooked? Sometimes it seems like my sister gets more attention and care than I do.

How do you feel about surgeries that change your sibling's face and appearance? It may be risky, but at least my sister feels better.

Have you ever had to explain or defend your sibling? Yes, I have. In school a student asked what was wrong with my sister, and I explained to them that she has Goldenhar syndrome and cannot control what she looks like.

How do you respond when you see someone staring at your sibling or family? I look back at them, and sometimes ask why they are staring at her.

If you could do one thing to change the world and make it better, what would it be? I would make it so kids and grownups wouldn't stare. I would make it so people would understand that my sister was born this way and to have more compassion toward her. And I would tell them it is rude to stare.

Who is your hero and why? My Great Grandpa is; he fought in WWI.





jason genovese

Age: 12

Craniofacial syndrome: Pfeiffer syndrome

State: California

What do you want to be when you grow up?

I don't know. Probably a comedian.

What is your favorite subject in school? I think music.

What is your hobby or talent? I like writing stories and using my imagination.

How do you feel when people stare at you? At school kids don't really stare because they know me. Outside of school, I just walk away so I can move on with my life.

What do you wish people would do instead? I wish people wouldn't stare and just move on.

How many surgeries have you had? I think around 11. My mom said I had a couple of surgeries on my stomach right after I was born, and I've had a bunch on my head.

What's the worst thing about surgery? Getting my blood drawn at the pre-op.

Have you ever been bullied? I can't remember.

What did you do? I ignored it.

Has the popularity of *Wonder* changed your life? In what way?

Wonder has a good message to choose kind. If someone has a facial difference like I do, you still have to respect them.

What is the most important thing readers should remember about *Wonder*? I think everyone needs to know the message and the heart of the movie, and see how all the characters relate to each other and to Auggie.

If you could do one thing to change the world and make it better, what would it be? I would make peace between all the world.

Who is your hero and why? My dad because we have the same sense of humor.

What is your proudest moment? I was proud of getting through my last big surgery.

zenin genovese

Age: 17

SuperSib

State: California



What do you want to be when you grow up?

In a perfect world, an NBA player.

What is your favorite subject in school? Art

What is your hobby or talent? Basketball, videogames, art

How many siblings do you have? One brother

How has your life been positively affected by having a sibling with a craniofacial difference?

I've seen how some people have to deal with things that they don't have control over.

Do you ever feel overlooked? Sure, but I don't mind.

How do you feel about surgeries that change your sibling's face and appearance? I care more about how he feels about it. If he is okay, then I am okay.

Have you ever had to explain or defend your sibling? Yeah.

How do you respond when you see someone staring at your sibling or family? I get angry, because it really doesn't make any sense. I wish they would mind their own business.

If you could do one thing to change the world and make it better, what would it be? Hit the restart button, but without things like racism, discrimination, etc., planted in people's head.

Who is your hero and why? Russell Westbrook (Oklahoma City Thunder player) because he never quits, he never settles, he always keeps going, and I enjoy watching him play.



children's craniofacial association

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