

An Uncle's Perspective

It is almost impossible to describe in mere words how much I love my nephew, Gabby. He is, after all, very lovable. From the way he screams with joy about scary Halloween monsters, to the way he looks at my "surprised" face when we see Thing 1 and Thing 2 pop out in The Cat in the Hat movie (even though it's about the 52nd time in one sitting that we've seen it). It's very fitting, I guess, that he bears the name of an angel, Gabriel, because, in his own little unique way, that's who he is - an angel.

I remember clearly the first day I met Gabby. I walked into the hospital room to see my sister holding this lovable little bundle of cuteness. He's so lovable because you can't help but fall in love with everything about him - from his perfect little nose to his tender eyes to his expressive and enthusiastic personality.

But, it wasn't long before we began to find out that Gabby was a special needs child.

On the contrary, Gabby is the best, coolest person that I know. He is the happiest person that I know. He lacks nothing and wants for nothing. He has it all. He has so much love in his heart. Everyone he comes into contact with is overwhelmed with kisses and hugs and "I love you's" (and yes, sometimes he just does this because he wants his iPad, and that's ok). That just means he's every bit as smart as we know he is. It is because of this wonderful school, Celebrate the Children, that Gabby has blossomed into who he really is. Gabby doesn't have an impairment; he simply learns and expresses himself in his own unique Gabby kind of way. Celebrate the Children gets that - they really get that.

Among his many notable achievements, Gabby's communication skills have improved dramatically as a result of attending Celebrate the Children. He enunciates words very clearly, he tells us when he's hungry, and he isn't shy about when he needs to go potty. More so than that, Gabby has learned to swim and ride horses - how cool is that?! Furthermore, he has learned very important social skills that have enabled him to communicate his amazing, loving nature to everyone he meets. Celebrate the Children not only provides Gabby and all his friends with an adventurous and fun learning experience, but they also ensure that the families of these beautiful children get the support and resources they need to deal with everything that comes with having a child with an alternative learning style.

Celebrate the Children has and continues to change Gabby's life for the better. As a result, Celebrate the Children has also impacted our family in an unbelievably positive way. But Gabby's story is not exactly unique. Celebrate the Children is an incredible blessing in the lives of so many children and their families every day. Celebrate the Children is more than a school; it is a second home to our kids and to so many beautiful souls who give every bit of their loving hearts to nurture and teach our little ones. Just like Gabby is the best person I know, Celebrate the Children is the best place that I know.

Luis Zamora
Gabby's Uncle

