

Shelley Bowen, Director Family Services & Advocacy June 26th, 2020

MEET BAHAA

How old are you now?

I will soon be nine years old.

What grade are you in now?

I am in the 4th grade.

Are you home-schooling right now?

Right now, there is coronavirus which is why I can't go out to go to school. Every child is home right now because of the coronavirus. I got a toy today to entertain myself. I can't touch it right now because there might be germs on it. It is in the car. My mom must first wipe it before I touch it.



I'm glad you are being so careful.

Yes, because the germs are around you and you have to be careful not to touch the surfaces and get yourself sick. I take care of myself very much. Even at school I take good care of myself. Like, when I am at school I stop when I get tired. I tell my friends I'll just take a break. Sometimes when I run my heartbeat gets fast. Sometimes when I run my legs get a little weak.

Do you have good friends at school?

Yes mostly. One of my friends is a little naughty. Also, there are some bullies at school. I used to avoid them and ignore them but then started to run away. Now I let the teacher know when people bully me. Then she speaks to their parents. I don't like to be mean to people. I like to be a nice person and not do bad things. That makes me happy to be nice.

You are such a happy boy. Are you always this happy?

Yes.

Bahaa's mom responds yes, most of the time. He is a very happy child.

What is your favorite subject in school?

My favorite subject is science. My favorite experiment is when I add salt and vinegar together. It turns into like snow. I did that at home. My mom works in a laboratory.

Are there other subjects that you like?

I like recess because it feels good to get out and get some fresh air.

Do you want to work in a laboratory like your mom when you grow up?

Not really, I like singing. Also, I like gaming.

What games do you like to play?

I like Spiderman, Batman and Roblox. I also like Sonic. I am really excited for the new Playstation-5 to come out because sometimes my gaming system will glitch.

Could you play with other friends who are not in the same house with you?

Yeah, I could really do that. I would like that very much. I think that would be very fun. We could play Roblox. It's a good game because you can add friends. You can't do that with Sonic.

Does it snow where you live?

Not really actually. It's very hot. I love snow because you can roll it up into a ball and make a snowman. Also, you can get a sled and slide down the hills. But I don't think it would be very fun to drive in the snow because you could maybe get stuck. When it snows more-and-more it may cover the car. I'd like to have a snow fight. Not really like a fight but where you throw snow at each other and play because fighting is not nice. I'd like to have snow fun not snow fights with my friends.

Tell me about the music that you like?

I like music. Also, I like singing. I sing opera but I am shy so I can't sing it right now. I will send you a song when I'm not shy. Mostly I sing when I am drawing or when I make paper airplanes. I'm not ready to send a video to you yet. I will ask my mom to record it when I am not shy and send it to you. I need some privacy to sing. I don't like to do stuff when people look at me. I only like to do things with privacy.

Do you have any brothers or sisters?

Not really actually. No, I don't really have any brothers or sisters, but I really want a brother. I have toys that he can play with. I will give them to him because I don't play with them anymore. But some of my stuffed animals, I'm going to keep them because I really like them. My favorite stuffed animal is a Husky. We don't have a real dog because we don't have a yard.

We have five dogs!

WOW, five dogs. That is so much responsibility! They need so much space, particularly to go to the bathroom. Do you walk them individually?

No, I just open the door, we have a fenced in yard.

That's good because they have to be safe. Do you have a swimming pool?

No, we just have a yard and dogs.

I would like to have a home with a swimming pool and a yard. I'm not sure if I would want a real dog because they would go to the bathroom in the yard and I would have to watch where I step. That would not be so good for running.

Do you like swimming?

Yes, my grandparents have a swimming pool. My grandfather cooks on the barbeque. My favorite is sausages and barbeque with barbeque sauce. I hate pickles. They are for older people, not for children.

What else do you like to eat?

I like spicy and salty foods too. I do like popcorn with salt and butter. I like butter powder, but they finished making it. There is no more. I never liked broccoli in my whole life. I do like green grapes and red and green apples but not the apples that are only green because they are very sour. I don't like to eat bananas. My mom says she has to force me to eat bananas. I do like chicken nuggets and French fries. I also like chicken sandwiches. I enjoy pancakes and waffles. I actually like cheese. Cheese is my favorite thing to eat. I like the squares and mozzarella the best.

If you were just to meet someone what would you say to them about yourself?

I would say I like to be a nice person to everyone. I like to make new friends. If someone were to ask me if I wanted to play of course I would say yes. Why wouldn't I be polite? We could play tag or hide and seek. We would have to decide on a game that we would like to play together. Because if you said you would like to play chess, I couldn't do that because that is not my favorite game. But if we talk about it I am sure we can find something we both enjoy doing.