



Sayde
Goes
to a
Dude
Ranch

A Wish Story

Make-A-Wish®

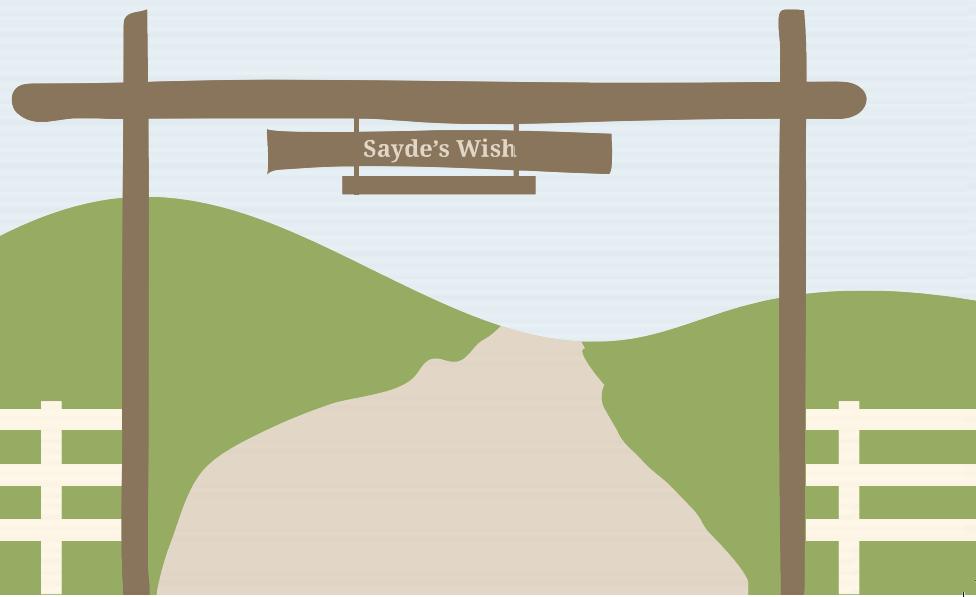


This wish storybook is dedicated to a caring community of people like you, who improve the lives of children with critical illnesses through the incredible power of a wish.

Sayde is an outgoing, happy-go-lucky gal. Everyone around her wants to be her pal! But when Sayde found out she had leukemia, her entire world turned upside-down. She became very sad and ill, and it was hard for her to smile when inside she felt a frown. Sayde went from always playing and running around to only wanting to rest and lie down.

Being stuck in the hospital was absolutely no fun; to get through hard days, Sayde imagined horseback riding in the shining sun.

“Sayde’s diagnosis changed our family in many different ways. She was going through ups and downs with it all, especially the amount of time she was stuck in the hospital. It was extremely hard for her.” – John, Sayde’s dad





One day, Make-A-Wish® gave Sayde a chance to wish for something true to her heart. She knew that riding horses on a dude ranch would give her a fresh start! Suddenly, Sayde's outlook had changed, as now during treatments she could focus on riding free in the open range.

“Sayde’s wish was a chance for her to do something with her family after all the time spent away,” said Sayde’s dad, John. “It was like her reward for being so tough and getting through chemo.”





Sayde has always loved horses – and what's not to love? They trot and they neigh and they wave their tails every which way. Sayde's favorite part is feeding them hay!

While on her wish, Sayde rode her horse, Stetson, with pride. She discovered so much joy that she couldn't help but smile wide.



Sayde explored the horse stables and brushed Stetson's mane, creating positive memories to replace those of sadness and pain. Her wish also gave her renewed energy and hope, and now her whole family has a better way to cope.





For Sayde, Stetson was more than just a horse. He helped her replace fear with confidence, like a transformative force! Sayde often tells Stetson what he means to her in a letter, and mailing it to the dude ranch continues to help her feel better.

This is how a wish provides what medicine cannot – it helps a child with a critical illness feel less distraught. Thanks to her wish, Sayde feels normal and strong; these heartfelt memories will remind her of that her whole life long.

*"We are still so very thankful to Make-A-Wish!
We have memories that will last a lifetime! It has
made Sayde's whole experience a lot easier and
we felt like people really cared for our family at
our darkest time."* - John, Sayde's dad





There are few experiences more powerful than making a wish come true – and we couldn't do it without the generosity of people like you. During a family's darkest days, you bring light and inspire; you help children find the strength that battling a critical illness requires. On behalf of kids like Sayde whose wishes you've helped create; it's your commitment and compassion that wish kids sincerely appreciate.



Though our story ends here today, a wish is just the beginning for kids like Sayde. Thank you for showing them that the impossible is possible by believing in the power of a wish. You are a true hero for children with critical illnesses, because when a wish is granted, a child replaces fear with confidence, sadness with joy and anxiety with hope. We are so grateful to you for giving this crucial, everlasting support to these children and their families when they need it most!



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