



# I am a Student.

We are her advocate.



**Aitana** is a very happy five year old who loves playing with toys, going to school and interacting with others, including her mother, father and especially her two older brothers. Her family, which primarily speaks Spanish, enjoys living in Arnold for the great schools, safe community and convenience—everything feels close and accessible.

When Aitana was diagnosed with a chromosomal disorder, her family wasn't sure what the future would hold for her, but they hoped she might be able to live as independently as possible one day. Although she currently shows more developmental delays than when first assessed, her four-day-a-week participation in physical, speech and occupational therapies through Fox School District has helped her in numerous ways.

In addition, Developmental Disability Advocates provides follow-along case management and will support Aitana throughout her life. Aitana's DD Advocates Service Coordinator works closely with her own husband, a Spanish speaker, to communicate effectively with Aitana's family and support her changing needs.

Because Aitana is nonverbal—but quite eager to express herself—DD Advocates is seeking an augmentative and alternative communications device to enable her to communicate with her loved ones. Through local resources like KidStart Lending Library and Variety Club, Aitana will soon be trying out communication devices to discover which one works best for her.

