

Here I Come Kindergarten: Colton's Journey



Colton, 5 years old

Two years ago, a bright-eyed little boy named Colton joined the SPARK program. At the time, he was just beginning to find his voice—his speech was still developing, and focusing during lessons was a challenge. But from the very start, there was something special about him: a spark of curiosity, a love for characters like Sonic the Hedgehog, and a family deeply committed to his growth.

When SPARK Parent Partner Allison first met Colton and his family, Colton was shy and timid. Each month, he grew more comfortable with Allison, and soon he was eagerly awaiting sessions. He'd light up when she arrived, excited to see what new letters and sounds they would explore together. They worked on writing his name, identifying letters, and connecting sounds. And after each lesson, Allison let him draw in his journal—a reward he cherished. Without fail, he'd sketch Sonic or one of his favorite characters, pouring his imagination onto the page.

Colton's progress was steady and inspiring. He began focusing more during lessons, with greater focus, and his interest in writing and drawing blossomed. His family was incredible—supportive, engaged, and always following through on the activities and recommendations that were sent home. Their dedication made all the difference.

Now, Colton has transitioned into kindergarten, and Allison couldn't be prouder. He did wonderfully on his assessments, and she has every confidence that he'll thrive in this next chapter. Watching him grow has been one of the most rewarding experiences of Allison's career. Though she'll miss the time together, she knows he's ready—and she will always carry a piece of his journey with her.