

Wishes and Dreams



Everyone loves the idea of a fairy godmother, a wishing well or finding a **genie** in a bottle who will grant us three wishes.

What are some of the things four students your age *wish* for?



"I wish my brother and sister would disappear. They're so annoying."

Alex (Year 5)

"I wish they'd do a talent show for people our age. It's not fair that we have to wait until we're older to audition."

Kia (Year 6)



"I wish school holidays were longer...like a month each time and then three months in summer."

Regan (Year 5)



"I wish my parents were not getting a divorce."

Zoe (Year 6)



Wishes are things that you may need, want or desire but they are usually things that you know you can't have, because you can't make them happen. When you find there is something on your wish list that could possibly happen in the future, that wish might become your dream.

So what do those same students, Alex, Kia, Regan and Zoe, *dream* of?



Alex: "I dream of travelling overseas when I leave high school."



Kia: "I dream of becoming a singer when I grow up."



Regan: "I dream of winning the interschool soccer grand final."



Zoe: "I dream of being a famous author."



Unlike their wishes, it is possible to achieve these dreams—they have the potential to come true. Alex, Kia, Regan and Zoe have long-term dreams they hope to reach. To get there though, they have to set *goals*.

Goals

If you think of your dream as your destination, then goals are the stepping stones to get you there. Imagine that you are building a path towards your dream. First, select the right stones, making sure they are flat enough to hold your weight and work out where you're going to place them. Then lay them carefully, always keeping your eye on your destination. If you spot a different way, consider it, for this way may be a quicker or safer option. If it is a better path, then take it. Be **flexible**.

It is also important to identify if you have put a stone in the wrong spot—don't worry if you do, you can learn from this. Grab another one and move on with setting yourself a new goal. Remember to stop every now and then though, and take in the view when you're building your path. Getting there can be part of the fun, too. You can also check to see if your path is still heading where you want it to lead. Finally, if you decide to change your destination, your dream, that's okay, too. Think about what your new dream will be and set your goal towards it.



What Kinds of Goals Do Kids Have?

Students your age usually have different goals to adults and teenagers. This is because as we get older, what we want in life often changes. So what kinds of goals do kids have? Take a moment to stop and think about what your goals are now.



The American actor, Adam Sandler, said this about his goals when he was young:

"My buddies, we've always just tried to make each other laugh... I mean, just like all friends hanging out... that's the goal."