

JILLIAN

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Dear Jillian,

Thank you for sharing your thoughts about the challenges of having Sickle Cell Disease. Thank you for celebrating what gives you strength (your family, the freedom to be a young adult and your confidence in yourself). I know many others will find strength in you and your story.

Surrounding you in hope,
Jenni

Jillian's Sand Tray: Puzzle Pieces That Connect All Together

The pills are the most important, main thing in my life. I have to take them just to start things. Pills jump start my day and save my life.

The puzzle stands for taking it 1 step at a time, letter by letter, 1 piece at a time.

I put the lion because Leo is my sign. The lion just shows you how much strength I have to get through life and take all the pills. I identify with and was made a Leo for a reason....so I could be strong.

The rocks are there because my family is my biggest support. I know they believe in me. They are a group of people who are in my corner.

The mirror is there because looking in the mirror every day and smiling gives me strength to get through another day.

I put the children in because my God kids keep me going.

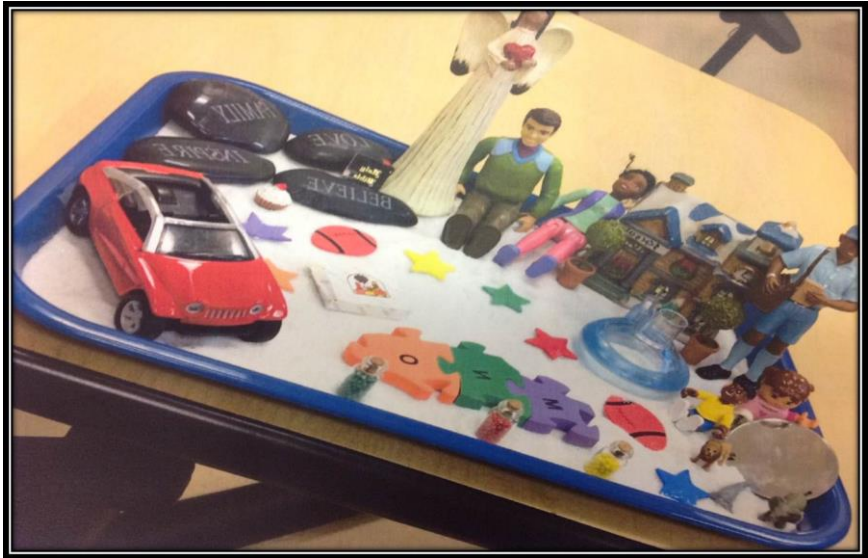
The IV is there because I have to get transfusions every two weeks. Ever since I was a little kid, IVs and shots never scared me. The anesthesia mask represents how I made it through every surgery. I have to get transfusions before every surgery because of my Sickle Cell Disease.

I put the angel and the Bible in because my Aunt passed away. When I was little, she used to tell me to "give her my pain." Every time I go to the hospital, I feel she's around telling me to "give her my pain."

The car makes me feel alive.

It gives me freedom. I can drive to school and don't have to rely on anyone.

By: Jillian



Jillian's Sand Tray: Puzzle Pieces That Connect All Together

Gabby's and Jillian's Sand Tray

The bed stands for the fact that what motivates us to get out of bed is that we get to go back in.

The teeter totter represents having something to look forward to when we go up on the 8th floor playground. The teeter totter also stands for the fact that every day is different and has ups and downs. Going home makes the teeter totter go up.

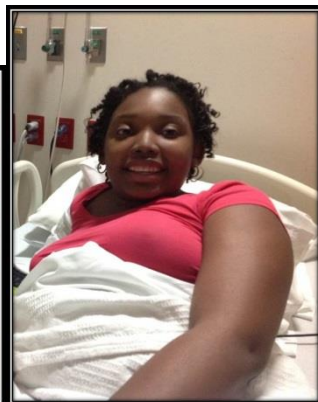
Mom is there because mom makes you get out of bed at the hospital. She is also a motivator to get you out of bed.

The medication jump starts the day. It gives you energy to get out of bed.

The mail represents that it feels good to get mail and know people at home are thinking of you.

The food is to symbolize that home cooked food is better than hospital food but the chicken nuggets and the cookies are ok.

By: Gabby and Jillian



STORIES FROM THE SANDBOX



Gabby's and Jillian's Sand Tray