

# Ashley's Mermaid Wish



**Ashley** is a ten year old Las Vegas girl who lives with spina bifida- a condition that keeps her reliant on the use of a wheelchair. In spite of her condition, though, **Ashley** is a cheerful and imaginative girl who has always loved being in the water, where she feels free. She shared with her wish granters that when she goes swimming, she wishes she could just stay forever. What other wish would **Ashley** have, then, to become a mermaid? It was a tall order, but the Silverton Casino stepped in to make her wish come true. Amazingly, they have mermaids who swim in a special tank full of exotic fish, sharks, and stingrays...and they decided to give **Ashley** lessons! She was outfitted with a beautiful mermaid costume, and with careful instruction, was soon

swimming amongst the sea creatures like a seasoned pro. It was time, then, for her big performance. With the help of the other mermaids, **Ashley** choreographed a special swim for friends and family to watch. It went off without a hitch! To celebrate, she was presented with sea-themed accessories, balloons, and cupcakes. The very best part, though, was a surprise. **Ashley** was handed a certificate letting her know that in July...she was off to Sea World in San Diego, where her grandmother lives! It was a truly magical day and a magical wish come true for **Ashley**.



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