

Nothing Can Stop Her

Jordan Reeves was born with a disability. But she says her difference doesn't hold her back—it makes her amazing!

When Jordan Reeves was 8 years old, she couldn't wait to start a new dance class. But as she was warming up, she noticed that some of the kids were staring at her. Was her leotard on backward? Had she spilled something on herself? Nope. The kids were looking at her left arm. It stops above the elbow.

"I've had to deal with people staring at me my whole life," Jordan, now 13, explains.

WORDS TO KNOW

prosthetic adjective. describes a device used to replace a missing or injured body part
mentor noun. someone who gives advice or guidance

CREATING PROJECT UNICORN

- 1 Jordan sketched her idea for a glitter-shooting arm.
- 2 A designer helped Jordan take measurements.
- 3 Jordan designed her new limb on a computer, like this one.



What Jordan Wants You to Know

Not sure how to act around someone who's different from you? Here are Jordan's tips.

• **Talk to me, not about me.** It's OK to ask me questions about my disability. But please say hi and introduce yourself to me first.

• **Stop staring.** Imagine if someone were looking at you and whispering. It's not fun.

• **Don't make a big deal about people who look different.** That's embarrassing. We're not aliens from another planet. We're just like you!

arm. Instead of paper, the 3-D printer used plastic to create an arm shaped like a unicorn's horn. Jordan called her invention Project Unicorn.

"It was a really cool experience to show that you can build onto your difference to make it awesome," says Jordan. "Not that it wasn't already awesome!"

Born Just Right

Jordan's mom shared the story of Project Unicorn online, and it quickly spread on social media. Jordan was already a **mentor** to other kids with disabilities. Now she had a bigger audience and could share her message with more people.

In 2017, Jordan and her mom formed an organization called Born Just Right to help other kids with limb differences. They're making it possible for kids from across the U.S. to

create their own limbs, like Jordan did.

"We want to show kids that anything is possible," Jordan says.

Sure, people still sometimes stare. But Jordan uses those moments to educate others. And she has a message for kids who feel different.

"Your differences are amazing," Jordan says. "You never know what amazing things you can do with them."

—by Tricia Culligan

GET TO KNOW MORE About Jordan! scholastic.com/sn4