



# Aquaris provides Peace of Mind and Excellence in School



Xavier Sheehan was surprisingly diagnosed with mild-to-moderate hearing loss at eight years old. After struggling with fragile traditional hearing aids and experiencing a decline in his academics, Xavier was fit with Aquaris™, the first ever digital waterproof hearing aid from Siemens. Aquaris' robust features proved perfect for Xavier's active, rough-and-tumble lifestyle.



Most cases of childhood hearing loss are discovered upon birth or during the early years of speech development. However, for now 10-year-old Xavier Sheehan from Fort Wayne, Indiana, hearing loss unexpectedly arose when he was eight years old. It wasn't until his mother, Tina Sheehan, was opening her private audiology practice that the red flags appeared.

As Tina was establishing her new office, Xavier went into her exam room and suggested they test her new equipment by giving him a hearing exam. Tina was stunned when the resulting reading wasn't normal. Xavier's screening revealed a mild-to-moderate hearing loss in each ear.

Xavier was quickly fitted with his first set of hearing aids. But being an active, adventurous young boy, Xavier found his hearing aids to be too fragile. Moisture from sweat leaked in and caused them to continuously stop working—or “cut out.” Wearing only one hearing aid caused Xavier serious headaches, so even if only one hearing aid cut out, he still couldn't wear the

second one, and would end up missing much of his educational instruction and social interaction.

After seven months of frustration and multiple repairs, Tina found herself searching for something better for her son. And she found it in the new [Aquaris™ from Siemens](#). After learning of Aquaris' waterproof, dustproof and shock-resistant features, Tina knew it would be a great fit for Xavier. And she proved to be right.

Xavier has put his Aquaris hearing aids to the test. “I love having mud monkey fights with my friends,” Xavier says. “I came home once drenched in mud, and my hearing aids were smothered. We just rinsed and dried them off, and they were good to go. I've never had a problem with my new hearing aids.”

Aquaris fit seamlessly into Xavier's life, helping him both in play and at school. “Shortly before getting his Aquaris hearing aids, we noticed Xavier was struggling in reading,” says Matt Sheehan, Xavier's father. “His old hearing aids were out of service so



*“His Aquaris hearing aids can handle everything he throws at them. That peace of mind is a great feeling.”*



often that they weren't very useful in school, and it was starting to show. Now with his new hearing aids, he can hear better and focus on his studies, and his reading scores have soared. Hearing and focusing on the correct phonetic sounds has helped his learning dramatically.”

worry about him hearing and learning, and I don't have to worry about him running to and from the bus or playing at recess when I'm not around. His Aquaris hearing aids can handle everything he throws at them. That peace of mind is a great feeling.”



Xavier currently makes use of the [Siemens miniTek® accessory](#) by connecting it wirelessly to his iPod and streaming music through his hearing aids. And he makes use of his miniTek at school with Siemens [VoiceLink™ system](#), which streams his teacher's voice via the miniTek directly into his Aquaris hearing aids—even from across the room.

“As a parent, it's very much about peace of mind,” Tina says. “I know he has the best, and I don't have to worry. I don't have to

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Hearing instruments may help people hear better, but no hearing instrument can solve every hearing problem or restore hearing back to normal.

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