

Fr Ray's Village

Nickname: Em

Sex: Male

Birth Date: 2006.04.02

Birth Place: Chonburi

Arrival Date: 2008.06.11



Family History and General Information

Em is Beu's first cousin. Their mothers are sisters. Em's mother is the older sister. Both Em and Beu were brought to an old lady being referred to as a "grandmother" and they were both abandoned with this old lady who was unemployed and facing financial difficulty trying to take care of herself and the 2 children. Through the grave-vine and some good neighbours' suggestion, both Em and Beu were brought to our Drop-In Center by the "grandmother" for shelter, food, clothing, schooling, and the other necessities of life. Both Em and Beu had been fed with just regular sweetened condensed cream mixed with warm water. Their teeth were not good because of too much sweets being consumed daily by them. There was no other kind of nourishments being given to them. Em was accepted by our Drop-In Center on the same day Beu was also brought in, the 11th of June 2551. Both Em and Beu are very young as they are only 2 years old. Em is adapting himself well to the new place and new faces. (NS)

December 2008

In September, Em was transferred into the care of the Father Ray Children's Village program, our new project which provides a warm home for homeless children or victims of broken homes, giving them love, care and help as found in a normal family. There are currently four homes in the Village. Em was welcomed into the fourth home along with 6 other residents, Frame, Saeb, Dao, Fai, Beu, and Jug-Ka-Jan. They all call their Caregiver "Mother" who takes care of them under the "we are family" concept and gives them the family life that all children require and deserve.

Em quickly adjusted himself to the new environment and the new people at the Village. He is generally a very lively, friendly boy who mixes well with everyone. He presently attends our in-

house pre-school. This will help him to prepare himself to move to the next age group in the near future with minimal adjustment problems. His weight is now 19 kg and he is 96 cm tall. His development appears to be progressing well. He can now compile longer sentences and he can tell the carer what he needs. He likes to go for a walk or play around the Village. He also likes to do many things by himself and he can now dress himself and go to the toilet without any assistance. He loves to eat sweet fruits. He likes to dress in his soldier uniform, as he wants to be a soldier in the future. (WS)

June 2009

Living at the Village for 8 months, Em has made good progress trying to settle in at the Village and is adapting well to the changes in his life. He is beginning to make friends with the older boys. Like other children of his age, he enjoys playing in the playground where he can swing and climb. He also loves singing and riding the bicycle. During the holidays, Em and other residents often went to the swimming pool. Unlike other children, he does not like swimming. He prefers walking around the pool to swimming. If he cannot avoid it, he would love standing in the shallow water. Recently, Em has started his nursery school at our Day Care Center where he is now attending our pre-kindergarten programme. Here he is learning the elements of reading and writing as well as skills, which are meant to help him make the adjustment into school life when he becomes of age. He already does well in his efforts at literacy under the close supervision of a teacher. A diligent and well-behaved boy, Em is rather a quiet one, still keeping very much to himself, yet he never hesitates when asked to do something. When he returns to the Village in the afternoon, he politely tells the Mother that he has school assignment today and there is a letter from the teacher. His current weight is 19 kg and height is 99 cm.

There is an important festival for Thai people in the middle of April. This is the Songkran Festival or the Thai Traditional New Year celebration. Our Village celebrated this festival on the 16th of April, 2009. Our children, having learned about the Songkran festival, paid respect to their mothers by pouring scented water over their hands and asking for their blessing for the coming year and then they happily threw water on each other. (WS)

November 2009

Em is now developing and progressing well. He appears to be a rather intelligent boy now, who is particularly skilful at following instructions given him both quickly and correctly. He is healthy, capable of feeding himself and can generally attend to his daily routines quite well. His current weight is 15 kilograms and height is 103 centimeters. His Mother reports that he is a polite young gentleman who sweetly talks to others. He understands what the Mother explains and forbids. A good-tempered and sweet boy, Em loves singing and playing football. Egg is his favorite food in any shape or form. At the Day Care Center, he becomes more joyful and talkative. He can make friends and enjoys playing with them in the playground. He has learned to share toys with them and this is a positive step over the last six months. Along with other residents from our Village, Em had a lot of fun going to the sea, swimming and having a picnic on the beach. (WS)

March 2010

Em will turn four-years-old in April. He continues to join in the Kindergarten – Level 1 at our Day Care Center in preparation to start his formal schooling when he becomes of age. He follows instructions in classes well. His muscles are strong enough for him to hold on to writing instruments, such as a pencil or crayon. He has started to copy the letters of the alphabets. His Mother notes that Em appears to have a short concentration span and lack of confidence.

A sensitive young boy, he looks confused when he appears to be different from other people. He carefully looks around and observes what is happening around him. He sometimes copies actions from the older children, especially from Saeb. Em still requires help in attending to his routine personal needs, especially those related to sanitary needs. He now weighs 15.5 kilograms and is 105 centimeters tall.

Health is very important to our life. Em is well cared for both at our Village and our Day Care Center. A monthly medical check up for our children takes place on the first Monday of each month at our day nursery. Along with other children who came to our Day Care Center on the 23rd of December 2009 and on the 27th of January 2010, Em was given an oral polio vaccine. (WS)

August 2010

There are now 10 Homes in our Fr. Ray's Village. Each house was named after a flower. Em continues to live in the fourth house which is called "Jasmine". He is now able to help himself with the routine things like bathing, dressing and eating at the level expected of someone his age. He enjoys his life in his home and enjoys playing with Beu, his cousin who lives in the same home. A polite, joyful and curious young boy, he never hesitates to ask when a question occurs in his mind. He is liked by everyone in his home as he kindly cares about other people's feelings. Like most children of his age, he prefers playing to studying in classes. He often has to be encouraged to do his assignments and he appears to work slowly. He now weighs 17.5 kilograms and is 105 centimeters tall. Evaluated by his attending teacher at our Day Care Center, Em progressed to our kindergarten educational programme, Level 2. He is able to count from 1 to 15, and he is also able to read the Thai and English alphabets. Dance lessons are taught at our day nursery in order that our children will gain self confidence, self discipline, poise and grace. Em does not need to be encouraged to dance and he appears to have good rhythm and movement. Em was recently a lively dancer in the opening ceremony of the annual sport competitions at our Vocational School for the People with Disabilities on the 22nd of July, 2010. He danced to the Waka Waka song which was the official song for World Cup 2010. (WS)

February 2011

Em was found to be 18 kilograms in weight and 112 centimeters in height. He loves and cares about his Mother and other residents in his home, especially Beu. He enjoys playing boyishly with other young boys of his age. At our Day Care Center, he is now in Kindergarten—Level 2. He enjoys learning new things and is now able to write the letters of the alphabet, both in Thai and English. He likes colouring and is capable of doing it well and neatly. In classes, he sometimes talks to his friends while other children are doing their assignment. This makes him finish his assignment later than the others. A happy lad, he is almost always found enjoying the company of other children in his age group. He is able to dress himself and to attend to his personal needs. He can politely greet others and may even express an apology when he does something wrong! He eats just about anything but particularly enjoys all kinds of fruit. He is healthy and has a good appetite.

December and January of each year are the happiest months for our children who receive colorful boxes of gifts during the Christmas season and on Children's Day. Like children in other projects of the Fr. Ray Foundation, each of the children at our Fr. Ray Children's Village greatly enjoys seeing new toys, clothes, stationery, and snacks in a wonderful atmosphere with screams of happiness and huge smiles. They are grateful to their benefactors from all over the

world for making this time so special. With thanks from all of us at the Fr. Ray Foundation, we ask for God to bless all concerned for making it a real Season of Joy for the kids. The National Children's Day in Thailand is held on the second Saturday of January of each year. To highlight the motto of our Prime Minister, Mr. Abhisit Vejjajiva, "Be Prudent, Thoughtful & Publicly Minded," we will encourage our children with your help to grow to be creative, helpful, strong, nurturing, and considerate of others. (WS)

August 2011

Like all children in our care, Em is looked after in safe and stimulating surroundings in our Village where he gets along well with all the residents. The Mother says his development is normal for his age. In particular, she says he can write the alphabet and his name. This is probably the result of the hours of work that he has gone through at our Day Care Center in preparing him for a formalised education. Em was able to progress to the next grade at our nursery school and is now in Kindergarten– Level 3. Along with his classmates, he has started a computer class which is taught for an hour a week. He has become familiar with several children's computer programmes and can use the mouse to lead him through the games and activities. He and his classmates also take swimming lessons for an hour a week. This training makes them strong and brave. He appeared afraid of the water at first, but he is now brave enough to learn how to swim. His class teacher says Em appears to have a short concentration span but he attentively does his assignments. He is physically developing well. Em is capable of running and stopping without losing his balance. He can also jump on one leg while remaining in the same spot. Em can catch a ball with two hands, thread beads and connect "Lego" into some simple designs of his own. He can also feed himself without any help from his teacher. (WS)