

Ode to SpongeBob

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My daily routine is that if I have class I would head to class and if there is work, I would go to work, but when I have free time available, it varies. Sometimes I would study by doing homework or preparing for exams. Other times I just choose to read books, watch TV, or play video games. One of my favorite shows to watch is *SpongeBob SquarePants*. It's a show that I loved as a kid and I still love to this very day. The show centers around the life of the titular character. Episodes range from SpongeBob trying to get his driver's license, to trying to stop Plankton, to stealing the Krabby Patty secret formula. SpongeBob is one of those shows that gets better when you watch it as an adult, ranging from jokes that you wouldn't get as a kid to how the average adult life is like. My favorite characters would have to be Plankton and Karen; I love their dynamic as a couple. In one episode, they can argue with each other, and in another episode, they're in love. While SpongeBob is known for comedy, the show can have some emotional moments, like when Gary leaves home and SpongeBob looks for him. It was emotional. Like any show, it has its fair share of low moments, but the good outweighs the bad. I enjoy talking to other people about SpongeBob. I am part of the SpongeBob community. We discuss episodes we like or hate, and the show's current state. In reality, I'm free to talk online. Being in a fandom means that you're a part of a community. Even though people on the

internet are strangers, you're still able to find friends. It makes me happy to talk to my online friends.

Joshua Asante is an undergraduate junior at UND. He enjoys reading books, watching TV, and playing video games.