



The Kids on the Block Program on Asthma

Featuring: Scott Whittaker, Brenda Dubrowski and Jason Robinson

Jason is confused when he learns that his friend, Scott, who has asthma, takes karate lessons. Scott explains, "As long as my asthma is under control, I can do just about anything. I just make sure I take my medicine before exercising and doing sports." Scott also explains why he prefers to use words like episode and flare rather than attack, "Attack sounds like something you can't control, something scary that sneaks up on you."

The Kids on the Block Program on Asthma was originally developed in conjunction with The American Lung Association of Northern Ohio and features ten year old Scott Whittaker, who was diagnosed with asthma about six years ago. Script material addresses issues such as involvement in sports, the importance of adhering to an asthma action plan to enable full participation in school and other activities and the emotional impact of asthma.

The complete curriculum consists of large hand-crafted puppets, five scripts, props, follow-up activities and resources.



**CALL OR WRITE TODAY
THE KIDS ON THE BLOCK, INC.**

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Script Summaries

Karate Kid

When Jason arrives at Scott's house, he is surprised to find Scott dressed in a karate uniform. Jason questions Scott about his participation in this sport because Jason believes that people with asthma have to avoid sports. Scott describes what having asthma means for him and how he manages his condition with the help of his parents and doctor. **(Scott, Jason)**

An Almost Unhappy Birthday

It's Brenda's birthday and her cousin, Scott, and their friend, Jason, are coming over to celebrate. Jason presents Brenda with her birthday surprise, a puppy. Scott, who arrives late, has an asthma episode because of the dog, and Brenda's new pet must be temporarily returned to Jason's house. Jason and Brenda help Scott get his medicine and deal with his feelings of frustration when an asthma episode intrudes on everyday activities. **(Scott, Jason, Brenda)**

Camping Supplies

Scott and Jason are planning a camping trip. Jason has a lot of questions about how Scott will manage his asthma while he is away from home. Scott helps Jason understand how his medicine and peak flow meter help him manage his condition. **(Scott, Jason)**

Don't Miss Out

Scott has missed school because he did not follow his asthma action plan properly. He feels that he has let Jason down because he couldn't help present their science project to the class. Scott explains why asthma shouldn't mean that he will have to miss out on things other kids do. With Jason's help, Scott comes to understand that even though following the plan can be inconvenient for him, he has to do it for himself, not his parents or doctors. **(Scott, Jason)**

Allergy Buffet

Brenda is planning a party for the cast of her school play. As she describes the menu to Scott, he alerts Brenda to the fact that he is allergic to some foods, making them triggers for his asthma. They discuss the precautions that Scott takes to avoid the foods which are triggers, and together they plan for Scott's enjoyment of the cast party. **(Scott, Brenda)**

NOTE: After each script, the children in the audience are given the opportunity to ask their own questions directly to the puppet characters.

The Kids on the Block, created in 1977, features life-sized puppets who, through the magic of live puppet theatre, teach children and adults about disabilities, medical and educational differences, and social concerns. Through the hard work and dedication of many community-based groups, **The Kids on the Block** puppets are able to touch the lives of people all over the world.