



The Kids on the Block Program on Epilepsy

Featuring: Brian McDaniel, Nam Nguyen, and Joanne Spinoza

Nam is surprised to learn that his friend Brian has something in common with a world leader they are studying in history class. Like Brian, Julius Caesar is believed to have had epilepsy. And like Julius Caesar, Brian knows his seizure disorder is only a small part of his identity. As Brian says, "Epilepsy DOESN'T stop me from doing the same kind of stuff my friends do."

The Kids on the Block Program on Epilepsy was developed in conjunction with the Epilepsy Foundation and features 11 year old Brian McDaniel, who enjoys playing the saxophone. Script material addresses a variety of issues surrounding seizure disorders, including learning disabilities. The program also provides a basic understanding of seizures, demonstrates seizure first aid, emphasizes the importance of supportive and open friendships, and examines issues of discrimination.

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



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

1-800-368-KIDS

9385-C Gerwig Lane, Columbia, Maryland 21046

(410)290-9095 FAX:(410)290-9358

www.kotb.com

Script Summaries

Caesar's Seizures

Brian and Nam are working on a report about the Roman Empire. As their discussion turns to Julius Caesar and the likelihood that this well-known figure had epilepsy, Brian gets an opportunity to explain more about seizure disorders and how each person's experience with epilepsy is different. **(Brian, Nam)**

Brian Has a Seizure

Brian and Joanne are walking home from school. During the trip Brian has a seizure. Joanne remembers what Brian has taught her about seizure first aid. They later discuss the importance of talking about epilepsy, and Joanne learns some things about being a good friend. **(Brian, Joanne)**

The Law of the Band

When Nam is given the task of distributing permission slips for the band's first marching trip, he decides that Brian should not participate because he has epilepsy. Brian explains why this is unfair, and Nam learns a little about the laws that make things fair for all people. **(Brian, Nam)**

Playin' It Safe

The fifth grade class is going on a swimming trip, and each student must select a buddy. Brian asks Nam to be his buddy and explains the extra precautions that he takes because of his seizure disorder. **(Brian, Nam)**

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.