

HEMOPHILIA



The Kids on the Block Program on Hemophilia

Featuring: Nicholas Murphy, Joanne Spinoza and Jason Robinson

“Well, I guess hemophilia mostly means that my blood can’t do ALL the jobs it’s supposed to do. That’s ‘cause it’s missing something called factor,” 11 year old Nicholas Murphy, tells his friend Joanne about his bleeding disorder.

The Kids on the Block Program on Hemophilia, developed in conjunction with Bayer Pharmaceuticals, addresses various issues associated with this condition. This program is designed to educate children about hemophilia and some of the functions of blood, to encourage sensitivity toward others who may have a difference, to discuss treatment, to address adult over protection and to correct some of the myths and misconceptions about hemophilia. The educational curricula consists of four scripts, follow-up materials, background information on hemophilia and resources, props and three puppets. Three of the scripts are developed for children in grades 3-6 and the fourth script can be used for younger audiences grades 1-3.

CALL OR WRITE TODAY
THE KIDS ON THE BLOCK, INC.
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(U.S. & Canada)



A TROUPE OF EDUCATIONAL PUPPETS

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Script Summaries

Garbage Pals (grades 3-6)

When Joanne shows up at the Murphy house to pick up her friend, Tanya for the volunteer clean up litter project, Nicholas explains that his sister is unable to participate and offers to take her place. Joanne hesitates to take Nicholas up on his offer because she thinks that, since Nicholas has hemophilia, picking up garbage could be dangerous for him. Nicholas takes this opportunity to explain to Joanne about what having hemophilia means and what it doesn't mean. He tells Joanne about his blood condition, how it's just one part of who he is, and that he can definitely be her "garbage pal!" (**Joanne, Nicholas**)

Trips Don't Always Lead to Falls (grades 3-6)

Nicholas and Jason's class is planning a big overnight camping trip. Nicholas, believing that his teacher is apprehensive about his hemophilia and the possibility of a bleeding episode, decides that it would be easier if he just didn't go. When he explains his reasons to Jason, Jason encourages Nicholas to take a pro-active approach to his dilemma by acting out the situation and assuming the roles. This script focuses on the aspects of planning for a trip away from family and the frustration that can occur when a well-meaning adult is overprotective. (**Nicholas, Jason**)

Back to School (grades 3-6)

Nicholas has been absent from school for a week while he recovers from a bleed. He is a little apprehensive about returning to school, so Jason comes over to help him prepare. While Jason is helping Nicholas pack up books, he comes across a flier for tryouts for a cycling team. Nicholas tells him he was thinking about trying out but has decided not to. The two boys talk about how Nicholas does pretty much anything he wants to do, he just may need to take extra precautions, (which, as Jason points out is a good idea for every kid) or change the rules a little bit. (**Nicholas, Jason**)

Our Busy BUSY Blood! (grades 1-3)

Nicholas recruits Joanne and Jason to help him demonstrate his project to his class about blood and hemophilia. They focus on how the parts of blood work together as a team and illustrate this by working together to build a structure out of blocks. (**Nicholas, Joanne, Jason**)

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 size puppets who use the magic of live puppet theatre to 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.