

About Juvenile Arthritis (and a little about me)

A Little About Me

Insert
your
photo

- * My name is _____.
- * I was born in _____.
- * My dog is named _____.
- * I have **JIA**, which is short for **juvenile idiopathic arthritis**.
- * I was diagnosed when I was _____ years old.

Never heard of Juvenile Arthritis?

It's OK.... Most people haven't heard of it.

Lots of people think only **old people** get arthritis. They are **wrong!**



Juvenile Arthritis is Real!

- * There are many types of arthritis. Some types affect only kids.

- * **IT'S A FACT!**

300,000 babies, children and teens have juvenile arthritis.



A Big Surprise

Imagine ...

All of a sudden a joint, like your wrist, swells up and starts to *hurt a lot*.

Then your doctor says you have a *chronic disease*.

That means *it can't be cured*.

Not all surprises are good.



Meet Other
Kids Who
Have Arthritis

Evan, age 6



Evan was in kindergarten when “weird pains” started to bother him. It was juvenile arthritis.

He hopes the medicines he takes will let him play sports again. He likes soccer, gymnastics and riding his bike.

Meet Other
Kids Who
Have Arthritis

Mia, 16 months old



Mia was 9 months old when she got very sick. She had a fever, rash and really bad joint pain.

After staying in three different hospitals, she was finally diagnosed with systemic juvenile idiopathic arthritis.

Meet Other
Kids Who
Have Arthritis

Charlotte, age 5



Charlotte's arthritis was in her knee, wrist and ankle, then it went to her eyes.

She can see now, but she has to take special medicine to protect her vision.

She has pauciarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis.

Meet Other
Kids Who
Have Arthritis

Kiana, age 10



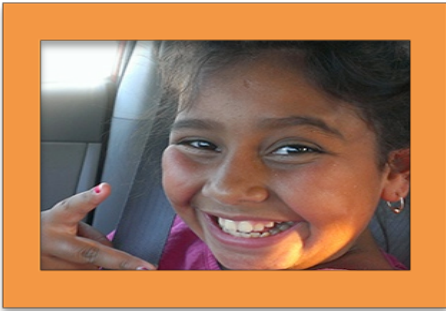
Kiana was 2 years old when her legs hurt so much she stopped walking.

Then she got a super high fever and had to stay in the hospital for a while.

Doctors eventually figured out she has juvenile rheumatoid arthritis.

Meet Other
Kids Who
Have Arthritis

Natalie, age 10



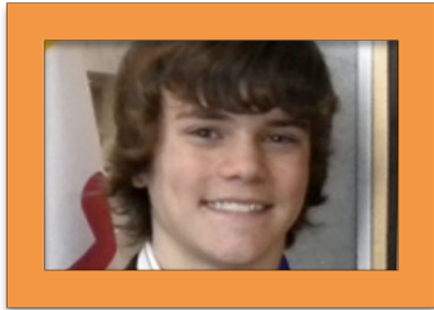
Natalie's mom thought the pain in her hands, wrists and fingers was just "growing pain."

Then Natalie couldn't open jars or pour herself a glass of milk.

They had to travel to another city to find a doctor who could figure it out. Her diagnosis is polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis.

Meet Other
Kids Who
Have Arthritis

Ryland, age 14



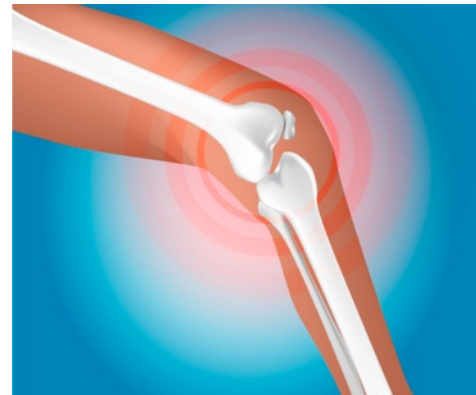
Ryland's joints began to hurt when he was 8 years old. He loved sports, so he tried to “play through the pain,” but it got worse. For 5th grade graduation, he had to use a wheelchair. Now he talks to groups of people about juvenile arthritis and helps them understand what the pain feels like.

What Is Arthritis?

- * Arthritis is a disease of the joints.
- * Joints are where two bones meet. They let you **bend and move.**

Examples:

- * Wrist joints
- * Finger joints
- * Knee joints



More Than Joints

- * All sorts of things can go wrong when you have JA.
- * Most of all it makes your joints hurt a lot!
- * It can also make you **really sick**:
 - * High fever
 - * Skin rash
 - * Super tired
 - * Loss of vision
 - * Harm to heart, lungs and other organs



Why Do Kids Get JA?

- * Nobody knows. Scientists are searching for answers.
- * They DO know it's not contagious.
- * There ARE clues. It may be in the genes you are born with, but there's more.

It's **STILL** a **mystery!**



Mostly Invisible

- * You might see swollen joints, like fingers or knees.
- * A lot of times you can't see anything. But the pain is still there.



Pain Comes and Goes

Kids with JA never know what to expect. Some days they might feel bad in the morning, but feel better later in the day.

In the morning...



in The afternoon...



JA and School

- * It can be hard ...
 - * Walking far
 - * Carrying books
 - * Holding a pencil
 - * Writing
 - * Doing exercises in P.E.
 - * Playing at recess



This is Important!

Kids who have JA may have painful joints, go on lots of doctor visits and get tired easily.

But...



Please Remember This!

... Kids with arthritis are really just kids, like everyone else.

Arthritis is *just one thing* about them!



Let's Find a Cure!



Please join my team and help me
raise money to find a cure!

My team name:

We have to fight for a cure so one day kids won't
have to feel this pain!

Do you have
questions
?

Thank you
for listening!