

Sadie



Our 2006 Jingle Bell Run & Walk Honoree, Sadie was diagnosed with Pauciarticular (few joints) Juvenile Arthritis (JRA) after several months of unanswered questions at the age of 18 month old. At the time of Sadie's diagnosis only two of her small joints were affected. For several years Sadie's arthritis would waiver from "active" to "quiet" with the help of the Rheumatology team at Seattle's Children's Hospital. During this time Sadie endured several steroidal joint injections which required that Sadie be put under complete anesthesia. In 2005 Sadie's arthritis intensified and her diagnosis changed to Polyarticular (many joints) JRA. This was the start of a long battle with several medications and more joint injections, physical therapy and dietary changes in order to control and combat symptoms. In an eight month period of time Sadie had changed medications five times without positive results. In March 2006 Sadie started yet another round of new immune suppressing medications and by June was seeing improvements. Sadie is a strong girl who is determined to be telling a story of WHEN she had JRA.

Even with arthritis a part of Sadie's daily life she is still a vibrant and active girl. Sadie loves to spend time swimming, reading, doing crafts and playing with her friends. She is a lover of all animals, being outdoors and has a spirit about her that fills you. Anyone that knows Sadie knows that one of her best qualities is her hugs!

Sadie and her family are a part of the Arthritis Foundation Kids and Teens Get Arthritis Too (KAT) Group. This group has allowed Sadie and her family to connect with other kids and parents dealing with arthritis. This is one of the many out-reach programs and services that the Arthritis Foundation helps to create in addition to their dedication to finding a cure!