

Expressways to Learning Making a Difference

Expressways to Learning-TN

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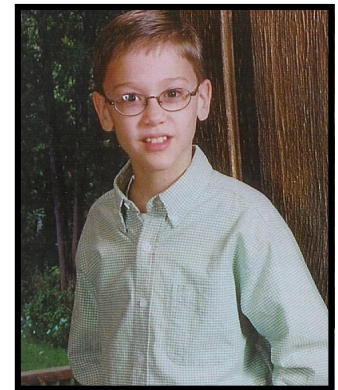
MAX, AGE 9, DISCOVERS HIS UNIQUE LEARNING STYLE

Max Hight was nine years old and in the 3rd grade. He has a condition called Agenesis of the Corpus Callosum, which in simple terms, means he does not have the bridge that connects the left and right hemispheres of the brain. For many years, Max struggled when learning new things. Max relied on repetition to be able to grasp something fresh.

Max had always done well in school, but only with a tremendous amount of work and commitment to succeed. Third Grade turned out to be a hard year mainly in English and Reading Comprehension. Max is a very literal thinker so "reading between the lines" is an extremely difficult concept for him. The Hights knew they needed to get him some extra help, but did not know where to turn. One Sunday night they were watching TV and saw a program that was describing learning difficulties that sounded a lot like Max's problems. The Hights immediately had Max tested.

"After four months into the program, Max had gone from beginning of second grade reading comprehension to the beginning of fourth grade comprehension. He had jumped two grade levels in only four months!"

*Paige Hight,
Max's mother*



Max, Age 9

It turned out that Max was pretty much right on target for everything except for his reading comprehension which was two and a half years behind. He was trying to do middle of the year third grade work when he only truly understood beginning second grade work. His word reading accuracy was right on target, but there was a huge gap in his comprehension.

MAX JUMPS TWO GRADE LEVELS IN ONLY FOUR MONTHS

Within six to eight weeks the Hights were able to see the progress of the ETL program. Max loved going to the center. His self esteem increased as he knew that the teachers at ETL had his best interest at heart. After four months into the program, Max had gone from beginning of second grade reading comprehension to the beginning of fourth grade comprehension. He had jumped two grade levels in only four months. He finished the program at the end of the third grade and the Hights anxiously awaited to see how he would do in the fourth grade. Prior to the program Max had been in resource classes for English and Reading. With the help of the ETL program Max was able to join his classmates in the regular English and Reading classes. In fact, he only missed making honor roll in the first quarter of 4th grade by a few points in one class. *Amazing what a difference a little encouragement and the right tools can make.*