My Brother Has A Crooked Head

STARband

Story from Orthomerica





Dear Families,

Orthomerica has created a series of educational materials for clinicians, caregivers and children in an effort to increase awareness of deformational plagiocephaly. This coloring book discusses the importance of early identification and treatment using a STARband[®] cranial remolding orthosis. It also notes the active roles parents and siblings can play in the treatment process.

It is our hope that this coloring book will reinforce the principles of the "Back to Sleep, Tummy to Play" program initiated by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Orthomerica would like brothers and sisters to know that they can help their newborn brother or sister by playing with them during "tummy-time". Tummy-time activities strengthen the baby's neck and trunk muscles, and help improve range of motion essential for treatment.

Now brothers and sisters can say, "But he's also better because of me!"

Color on!

My Brother Has A Crooked Head



a coloring book about plagiocephaly and the

STARband®

Illustrated by Angela Sarmiento



My baby brother is 4 months old. He has 10 little fingers and 10 little toes.



He eats and plays and goes to bed. And my brother has a crooked head.



We saw the flatness of his head right from the start.

And our Doctor said...



"Reposition your son, and try these stretches.

Check back in 8 weeks

and we will see how he progresses."



We did the activities that we were taught.
But his head was still crooked So we came up with a thought.



Let's ask for the STARband to shape his head!

He will wear it all day and then to bed.



My brother likes to wear his band. He looks like an astronaut ready to land.



He can drive a race car in lane one.



As a football player He's ready to run.



He will be a jockey for all to see.

And when he crosses the finish line
he will wave to me.



His head is getting rounder now.

And friends who see it

all say WOW!



At night we put him down to bed upon his back to rest his head. Because his back is the place to be to help him sleep so peacefully.



In daytime we play on the floor, because being on his tummy helps him more. It makes his head and neck so strong that soon he will crawl and walk along.



My Mom and Dad say tummy time rules, and so I help when I come home from school.



I get down flat and play peek-a-boo. And love to hear him babble and coo.



My brother had a crooked head

But now it's round

like the Doctor said.

The STARband® shaped it

and that was key—

But he's also better because of me!

Tummy Time

Tummy Time provides parents with ideas and activities to make sure your baby gets enough time on his tummy throughout the day, while he is awake and supervised. These activities include handling, carrying, diapering, positioning, feeding and playing with your baby.

Increasing the amount of time your baby lies on his tummy promotes muscle development in the neck and shoulders; helps prevent tight neck muscles and the development of flat areas on the back of the baby's head; and helps build the muscles your baby needs to roll, sit and crawl.

Ask your healthcare provider or a copy of Tummy Time!







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What is a STARband® and how can it help my baby?

Some infants develop flattening or asymmetry of their heads (deformational plagiocephaly) even after a developmental program as active as Tummy Time!

If your baby's head shape does not improve after 4 months of age, your pediatrician may refer you to a doctor who specializes in the skull or suggest that you see a professional called an orthotist, who can create a custom-molded STARband to help shape your baby's head. This special band is called a cranial remolding orthosis. It is worn 23 hours a day and gently guides the baby's head into a more normal shape.



Before STARband® Treatment



After STARband® Treatment

For more information, visit www.starbandkids.com