

“INCREDIBLE IAN” STANDING SUPERHERO



Name: Ian Fallgatter

Primary Diagnosis: Spina Bifida

Height: 36"

Weight: 32 lbs.

Stander: EasyStand Bantam with options

Standing Since: Age 2



A cool kid with spina bifida who is all standing superhero and has a terrific costume to prove it, that's "Incredible Ian." He rips in his wheelchair and stands tall in his supportive EasyStand Bantam stander. His physical therapist and mom share how a daily standing program helps bring out his super standing powers!

POW!

Early Standing Program

Early intervention is important and Ian was on the right track when he started a standing program at a similar age to when able-bodied kids usually stand. When Carol Gilligan, Ian's Physical Therapist at Kids Abilities, first met Ian, she noticed that he could be standing straighter, "Ian was standing in a different stander at age two. I immediately said, 'I don't like that stander!' He was crouching in it and leaning too far forward in his hips. That is when we started looking at the EasyStand Bantam."

SHAZAM!

Safe Supportive Standing

After looking into a variety of standers, Carol recommended the Bantam. She explains, "The Bantam works well for Ian, and I really like it. We tried a couple of different standers and they just didn't offer enough support so he was always a little bit crouched. The Bantam gives him full support in his hips, keeps his knees straight, and allows range of motion without him being in any sort of discomfort! He is able to stand and loves it, which is very important! Plus as he gets older, I know that Ian will be transferring in and out of the stander by himself." Daria Fallgatter, Ian's Mom, knows from experience how important it is to have a stander that adjusts to fit Ian's unique needs. "Ian had a broken femur so now one leg is shorter than the other. In the Bantam, I am able to bring one foot plate up a little more and still get equal weight bearing in both legs."



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From a physical therapist's perspective, Carol finds the form-to-fit contoured seat and back to be very functional. She explains, "Having the lateral supports built into the Bantam is so nice! With other standers they are added on or are just square. They don't really hold the kids or are too far away. In the Bantam, you don't really see them, the kids like them, they are comfortable. So I think that the contoured seat and back are important options to have."

WOW!

Benefits of Standing

Each person experiences different benefits from standing. For Ian, standing has improved his range of motion and independent mobility. Carol, his PT, explains, "I think this stander has really made a difference in maintaining Ian's range of motion. Because Ian is looser and has maintained his range of motion, standing also helps with his walking ability. Now when he gets in his RGO's, he is independently walking using his walker. It's pretty cool!"

ZAP!

Standing Routine

"Finding time for Ian to stand is just another part of our daily routine" Daria explains. "I fit in standing when we are at home and I know that we are not going to be leaving the house in the next hour, hour and a half. Many times I incorporate snack and play time into Ian's standing time. Or when I am in the kitchen preparing a meal is another easy time to have him standing." Carol adds, "I asked Daria to have Ian stand at least once a day, and they have followed through perfectly with that!"

BAM!

Funding for Standers

Kids aren't the only ones who have super powers, therapists do too! When it comes to funding, one of a therapist's strongest super powers is writing an exceptional letter of medical necessity. "I wrote a letter of medical necessity for Ian's stander stating all the reasons that standing was important for him including: bone growth, upright positioning, and bowel and bladder function. I also noted that he will be able to transfer independently," says Carol, Ian's Physical Therapist. "We had no problem, it went right through and his insurance covered it!"

"Incredible Ian" activates his standing super powers every day with a little help from his heroic allies, his mom and physical therapist. Together, this team makes a world of difference in the life of one little super hero!

STANDING PROGRAM:
1 HOUR DAILY

HEALTH BENEFITS:
MAINTAINS RANGE OF MOTION
BENEFITS WALKING PROGRAM
ENCOURAGES INDEPENDENT TRANSFERS

PSYCHOLOGICAL BENEFITS:
BRINGS OUT HIS SUPERHERO

STANDING ACTIVITIES:
SNACK TIME
PLAY WITH TOYS

CHALLENGE: ACCOMMODATE FOR LEG LENGTH DISCREPANCY

SOLUTION: FOOTPLATES ON THE EASYSTAND BANTAM ADJUST INDEPENDENTLY

CHALLENGE: COMPLY WITH A DAILY STANDING PROGRAM

SOLUTION: INTEGRATE STANDING ROUTINE INTO SNACK TIME, MEAL PREPARATION OR PLAY TIME



kids.easystand.com