

Broken Wrist

Story By: Andrew Frinkle



Jamie loved to climb things. Her mom said she'd been climbing things ever since she was nine months old. She didn't remember that far back, but she sure did like to climb!

There was no tree she wouldn't try to scale. A pile of rocks was an invitation to climb. She'd scamper up and over every piece of furniture in the house. She liked to clamber up into dad's truck, too.

One day, she was climbing around on the weight bench in the garage, when she suddenly slipped. She tried to catch herself on the way down, but landed strangely on her wrist. A flash of pain shot up her arm from her wrist, and she started to cry.

Mom came outside and found her cradling her wrist. They went inside to ice it. Mom was no stranger to cuts and bruises, but she could tell that this time was different. The tenderness in the wrist didn't go down.

The next day, Jamie's wrist had swollen up and looked dark, almost bruised. She could barely manage to touch it. It had been hard to sleep the night before, also. It was agonizing to put any weight on the wrist or to try to carry something with that hand.

They went to the doctor, who took an x-ray. They found out that she had cracked two of the bones in her wrist. They weren't completely broken, which was great, but they were fractured and a cast was required. She got a pink cast put on from her fingers down to her elbow.

For several itchy weeks, Jamie had to be extra careful not to get dirt or water on the cast. It started to smell after a while, too, because it was impossible to wash underneath there, and her arm sweated under the cast.

It was a huge relief to get the cast off, finally. Her arm underneath looked whiter than the other one, but a little sun would fix that. Now she could get back to playing outside, swimming, and maybe even a little climbing!

Jamie had learned to be a bit more careful, but she wasn't about to give up one of her favorite things!



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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. How young was Jamie when she supposedly started to climb?
 - A. 6 months
 - B. 9 months
 - C. 12 months
 - D. 18 months

2. TRUE OR FALSE: Jamie broke her finger.
 - A. True
 - B. False

3. What was Jamie climbing on when she got hurt?
 - A. the roof
 - B. a tree
 - C. the car
 - D. the weight bench

4. Why did mom know that this time something was really wrong with Jamie's wrist?
 - A. She couldn't do gymnastics anymore.
 - B. She wouldn't stop crying.
 - C. Her wrist was swollen, dark, and tender.
 - D. She cried and didn't want to go to school.

5. What color of cast did Jamie get?
 - A. pink
 - B. red
 - C. purple
 - D. white

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