

“Mischievous Carla”

Carla is a four year old little girl with Down syndrome. When she was born, I did not see any signs that my child might have Down syndrome, but on the fifth day after her birth, the pediatrician asked to meet with me and in a subtle way, he told me the news, explained what it was and put me in touch with “Babies Can’t Wait”.

I already knew that there was a possibility that Carla would have Down syndrome but my “mother’s love” made me blind to it and I just saw her as “normal” like any other baby. But, as expected, she started to grow and develop and I started to notice the characteristics (the doctor and others had told me about), but most of all I noticed that she was delayed in raising her little head and I also noticed that her little body was very soft and weak.

Carla began to receive therapy from three months of age and we began to see her improve and gain new skills and each gain was a reason to celebrate, for all of us! She began to walk at 1-1/2 years of age.

Carla is a very busy and mischievous little girl; she loves mama’s purses and loves to play “mama”. She grabs her dolls, a purse, brushes her hair and says “Bye, Adios”. Last year she started school and on the first day I was quite worried about her, afraid that she wouldn’t adapt, that she would cry when the school bus came for her. But this first day, Carla showed me that she was much stronger than I. When Carla climbed into the school bus she was smiling from ear to ear, she waived “Adios” with her little hand, and left me almost crying from the emotion and nerves of the moment. When she returned at the end of the day, I saw her climb down from the bus with the same happy face she started off with in the morning. She ran to me, gave me a big hug, took me by the hand as if to say, “Mama, I’m back, nothing happened, I’m fine.”

Now she has a little brother who is almost two years old. They love each other very much and it is clear that Carla sees herself as his protector, always making certain that no harm will come to him. Like all siblings, they play and sometimes they fight, but they love to be together and when she comes home from school, he is the first one she looks for so they can play “school” together, of course, she is the “teacher”. Sometimes she plays a scolding teacher, pointing her finger, acting the teacher with her little brother.

Every day I give thanks to have Carla in our lives! We all love her and we hope that she continues this same happy life, and that she continues to be our “mischievous Carla”.

Mireya Galvan

“La traviesa Carla”

Carla es una niña de 4 años con síndrome de Down. Cuando ella nació yo no le notaba el síndrome, pero al quinto día de nacida el pediatra pidió hablar conmigo y fué como de forma sutil el pediatra me dió la noticia y me explico lo que era, y el se encargó de contactarme con “Babies Can’t Wait” (Bebés No Pueden Esperar).

Yo ya estaba enterada que Carla pudiera nacer con el síndrome, pero mi amor de Madre no se lo veía yo la veía normal como cualquier bebé, pero conforme fué creciendo y desarrollandose empezé a notar las características, sobre todo porque tardaba en levantar su cabezita y su cuerpecito era muy blando.

Carla empezó a tener terapia desde los tres meses de nacida y yo empezé a ver sus mejorar, sus logros, y cada logro era motivo de festejo para todos. Ella empezó a caminar al año y medio.

Carla es una niña muy inquieta y traviesa, le gustan mucho las bolsas de mamá y juega a ser mamá, toma a sus muchecas carga una bolsa, se peina su pelo y me dice “bay, Adios”. El año pasado empezó asistir a la escuela, para mi su primer día de escuela yo estaba muy preocupada por ella, tenía miedo a que no se fuera adaptar y que fuera a llorar cuando el autobus de la escuela fuera por ella.

Pero ese día Carla me demostró que ella es mas fuerte que yo. Cuando Carla se subió al autobus iba con una sonrisa de oreja a oreja y me decía Adios con su manito y yo me quede casi llorando de la emoción y de nervios. Pero cuando regresó y la ví bajar de bus ella venía igual feliz, corrió y me abrazo y me agarro mi mano como diciendo “Mami ya estoy aquí, no pasa nada, estoy bien”.

Ahora ella tiene ya un hermanito de casi dos años, ellos se quieren mucho y noto como Carla lo proteje la cuida de que haga cosas que se vaya a ser daño. Y como todos los hermanos juega y en ocasiones pelean, pero siempre estan juntos y cuando va a la escuela ella regresa buscando a su hermano para jugar escuelas, clara ella es la maestra y en ocasiones segun ella lo regaña, Carla empieza hablar y da sus indicaciones como maestra a su hermano.

Todos los días doy gracias porque Carla este en nuestras vidas, todos la amamos y esperamos que siga siendo así toda su vida, “una niña traviesa”.

Mireya Galván



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THX!