

TRANSCRIPT: About Marley

Janice, Marley's mother

Marley is one of the funniest people that you will ever meet. He is loving and very well loved. He makes a friend of everybody he meets, really. He loves adults, but children he finds difficult because they don't do as he wants them to, but usually he finds a way of getting his own way.

He is very clever. He has trouble with reading, writing but he can think his way round a problem and he usually comes up with some sort of solution to what he wants to do.

He really is a happy child. He has a lot of disability and he's been through some really hard times with operations and treatments that he has had, but he copes brilliantly well.

He was born with mild cerebral palsy. We adopted him 13 years ago. He was a late walker, late talker but when he came to us at the age of three it was a stable condition really, but within six months of us having him he had encephalitis, which caused a stroke, which has left him with epilepsy and a severe left-sided hemiplegia. It's also affected his vision. The epilepsy's not controlled. He's on two sorts of medication for that. He has had operations on his leg to try and extend the tendons in his left leg because his left leg is much shorter than his right. Also, a year ago he was diagnosed with autism.