



"SMILE FOR ME"

Milton's Guide

To

MOEBIUS SYNDROME

Written by ... Linda Lawrence

Illustrated by ... Uncle Rod



G'day,

My name is Milton and I would
like to tell you all about

**MOEBIUS
SYNDROME**

We all have a THINKING BRAIN!



It is our Thinking Brain that is in charge of the rest of our body and tells it what to do.

If we want to clap our hands



or wiggle our fingers and toes



It is our Thinking Brain that tells our hands, fingers, feet and toes what to do by sending messages to them.

It's a bit like sending a text message except that our body uses "NERVES" instead of a phone.

We have nerves connected to every part of our body, and these nerves all have different numbers.

The Thinking Brain uses these Nerve Numbers like you use phone numbers to send "What to Do" messages to different parts of our bodies.

It is our Thinking Brain that tells the different parts of our bodies what to do all the time, even when we are asleep.

In our face we have lots of Nerves
that have special jobs.

Nerve "Number 6" sends messages to
our eyes to make them open and shut



and move from side to side.



It even makes our eyes blink every few seconds, so that our eyes stay nice and clean and we are able to see clearly.

The Number 6 nerve is so special that we don't even have to remember to tell our Thinking Brain to send a message.

We just blink all the time without thinking about it.

Now, what do you suppose would happen if the Number 6 Nerve in our faces was broken or didn't work properly?



Well, if our eyes didn't blink all the time, they would get very dry and sore.



We would need to see a Doctor who would ask us to use special eye drops in our eyes all of the time to stop them hurting, and becoming damaged.

Another very special Nerve that we have in our face is Number 7.



It's Number 7's job to take messages to our lips, to our nose, to our cheeks and to our chin.

The Number 7 Nerve is very important
as it tells our friends if we are feeling



Sad



Angry



Sick

and **most important of all** when we are



"HAPPY"

It is also the Number 7 Nerve that tells our face to give our teacher a big happy smile every morning.



If we didn't have this very special Number 7 Nerve in our face, our Thinking Brain couldn't send messages to our lips, cheeks, nose and chin.



This means that our Mums, Dads, all of our friends and our teachers wouldn't be able to tell how we are feeling just by looking at our faces.

It is very important to remember that if our Number 7 Nerve missing or broken and we can't make a big happy smile, our thinking brain is still saying

"I am HAPPY"



(This is called smiling from the inside)

My name is Jack Lawrance



*You can't see me smile, but I like you!
You can't see me frown, when I'm feeling kinda blue.
You can't see me cry, and this is really why?
I have Moebius Syndrome*



My Number 6
Nerve is broken



& I don't have a
Number 7 Nerve at all

SO CAN YOU PLEASE



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SPECIAL THANKS

This book is possible because of the very special help of Mrs Katrina Merrells, who suggested I write this in the first place. She edited the text and provided valuable guidance as to how this book could be used to help other children understand Moebius Syndrome.

To Uncle Rod, for all your help with the images and story improvements, my family & I are eternally grateful for your help to make it possible to share this book with everyone.

And finally to Jack, this is for you buddy! I hope it helps your friends understand you are the wonderful special little guy we already know you are. Love you, Mum & Dad.

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For more information on Moebius Syndrome, please visit

www.manyfacesofmoebius.com

**Written by
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**Illustrations by
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