

Cleveland Clinic Children's

Broken Arm Emergency Room Visit Social Story

Written and developed by CCBDD Intensive Support Teams & Cleveland Clinic Children's Medical Staff

Supporting and empowering people with developmental disabilities to live, learn, work and play in the community

My name is Calvin. I fell from the monkey bars and hurt my arm. My mom and dad brought me to the kid's emergency department (ED). I met Aubrey the nurse when I walked into triage. She let me sit on my mom's lap and hold my "stuffy" while she checked me in. Here she is checking my oxygen level and hear rate by placing the white probe on my finger.





Nurse Aubrey brought me back to one of the exam rooms. I had to change into a gown so that the doctor could better check my arm.





I was a little nervous while I waited for the doctor, so Nurse Aubrey had Erin from Child Life visit me. She made me feel better by explaining and playing with me. Here I am popping bubbles with the lighted spinner.





Next, Dr. M came in the exam room to meet me. She talked with me, and I explained how I hurt my left arm.





Dr. M then checked my hurt arm and told us I needed a special picture called an X-ray so that we could know for sure if I fractured, which means broke, one of my bones.



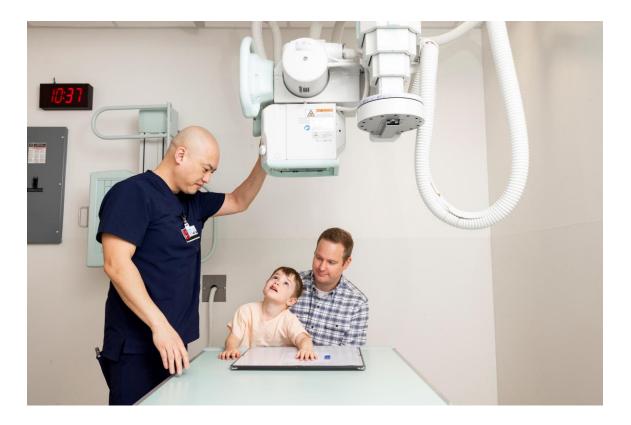


Dr. M asked Nurse Aubrey to give me some medicine to help with the pain in my arm. At first, I didn't want to take it. Then, everyone explained the medicine would make my arm hurt so much less.



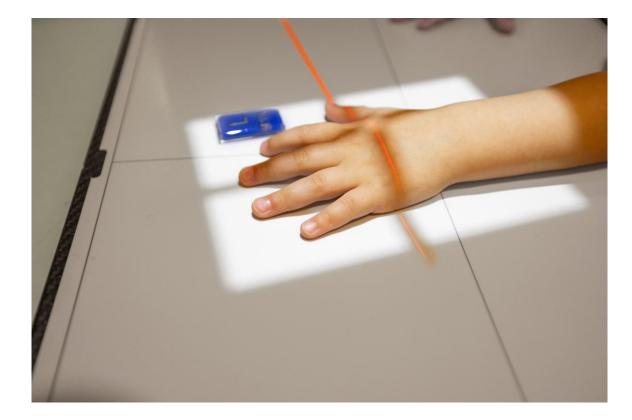


Here I am with my dad and Peter in the X-ray room. Peter is a radiology technician that is trained to take body pictures that help the doctors see inside us. He showed me the special camera and put my arm in different positions to help see my arm bones better.





Here is my hand placed in the correct position for the X-ray.





I went back to my exam room after taking the Xray of my arm. Dr. M brought up the pictures of my arm bones on the computer. The pictures showed a small break in the bone. That break in the bone is also called a fracture.



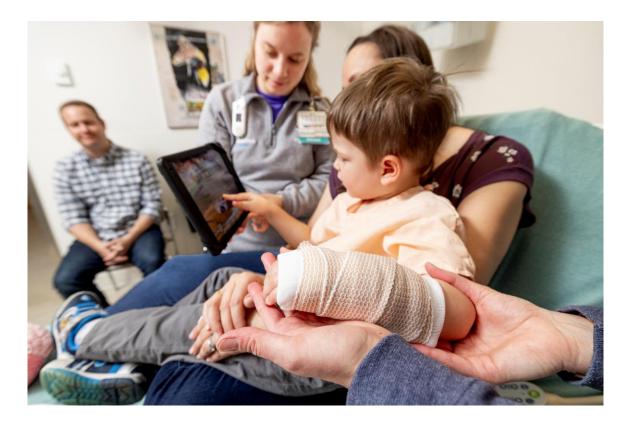
She then explained that the bone will heel in about 4-6 weeks if we make sure the bones are held still in the correct position. Something called a splint will be placed today which is like a half cast. Then in a few days, I will see the bone doctors who will put my arm in a cast for at least 4 weeks.

Child Life Specialist Erin brought an iPad with my favorite game that I played as Nurse Aubrey placed my splint.





This is what my splint looks like. It made my arm feel much better. It was like a pillow hug for my hurt arm!





Nurse Aubrey gave me a popsicle once my splint was done. I learned so much about my body, bones and what happens when I must visit the Pediatric Emergency Department. Everyone cared for me and made me feel better!







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