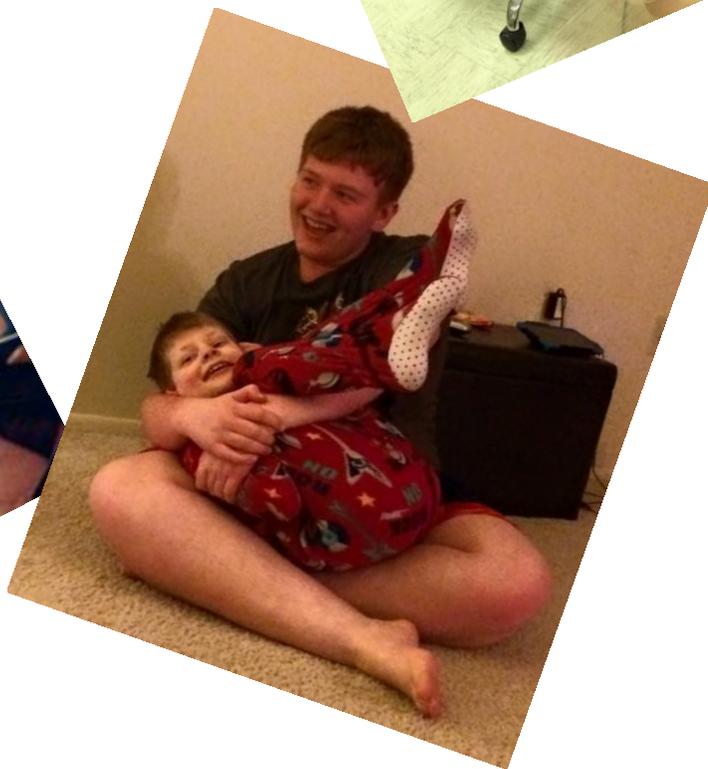
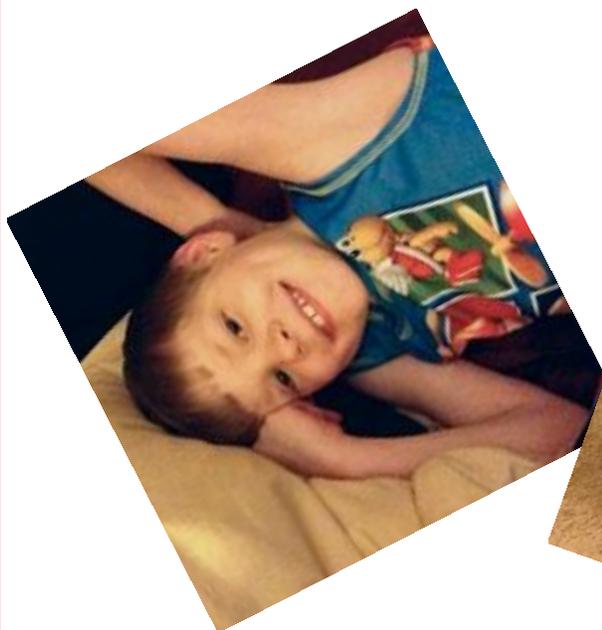


All About Me!



Kouper
Elliott

Dear Kouper's 3rd Grade Team,

We are pleased to share Kouper's All About Me booklet with you. This booklet contains a lot of information about him and his family.

We hope the information will help you get to know Kouper and some of his interests, strengths, and skills.

We have high expectations for Kouper as other parents do for their children. We expect him to follow school rules, perform to the best of his ability, and be a contributing member of the class. Good teaching and positive peer role models will help Kouper to be successful.

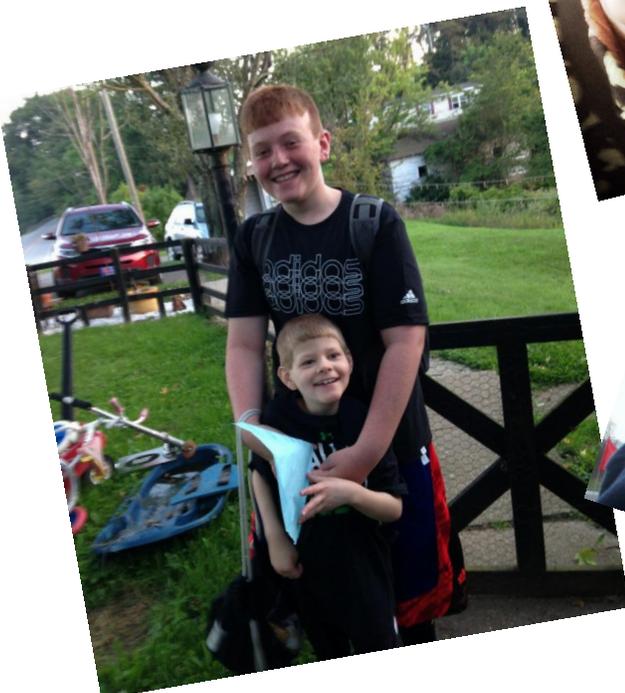
If you have any questions, please call or email us at the contact information below.

We look forward to working with you this year. Please let us know how we can make this a GREAT school year.

Sincerely,

Pat Elliott
304-238-3985
koupersmom@gmail.com

Bo Elliott
304-231-4240



Kouper's Vision Statement

We have many hopes and dreams for our son, Kouper. But the goals that relate most Directly to his educational experiences are:

1. To help Kouper maximize his potential by challenging him to discover and develop his gifts and to help him learn how to strengthen his areas of need.
2. To develop a network of loving and caring family, friends, teachers, and individuals who:
 - A. Believe in Kouper's potential
 - B. Accept and love him for who he is
 - C. See him as a unique individual with valuable gifts and distinct preferences to be respected.
3. To provide an environment that allows Kouper to develop spiritually and socially, interacting with her typical peers and the greater community around him.
4. To help him communicate, be able to help express his ideas meaningfully, as well as be easily understood by others.
5. To give him opportunities to help so that he can nurture his heart for others and develop a sense of community.
6. To facilitate his steps to independence with the sheltering respect and support of the individuals dedicated to his best interests.



Our Family's Dream For Kouper



When Kouper was born we didn't really know what was different about him and worried so much about how unique he was. We worried a lot about his health and that he wouldn't be able to walk, learn , and communicate.

We could not have been more wrong. Kouper has his own unique way of doing these things. With his strong will he can accomplish Anything he *wants* to accomplish! He amazes us everyday with what he understands about

people and in all areas of his life. He is very

Loving, caring, and is good with manipulating people and his environment to be the way he wants it to be.

Some of the goals we have for Kouper include:

Waylon: have Kouper wrestle and play with me and learn to play football and X-Box One

Mommy: have Kouper live more independently, take more interest in the world around him, communicate his wants and needs to others, and express his funny sarcasm to others.

Daddy: for Kouper to live a healthy long life and be able to communicate with me And others around him.

Our hopes for this year are:

We want Kouper to be challenged, learn, discover and develop his gifts , take interest in his peers, and strengthen his areas of need.



My Friends & Family

My name is Kouper Elliott. I will be 11 years old on December 6. I moved to Ohio County from Marshall County 2 years ago.

My mom's name is Pat. She works for WV Birth Three. She is the director of Ohio County Special Olympics and loves helping children and adults with unique abilities.

My dad's name is Bo. He is a machinist mechanic at Walmart Distribution Center. He likes listening to all genres of music and watching old movies.



I have an older brother named Waylon. He will be going into the ninth grade and he will be playing football as a Wheeling Park Patriot. Although I am not much into sports I will try to go to his games. I pretend not to watch them and play with my I-pod but I love when he makes a good play.

We have 2 cats, Raider and Ruthie, and a dog named Buster. It's not that I dislike animals, I just don't like to touch them much.

Other Friends and Family I want you to know about are:

Pat is a special friend! He hangs out a lot with my mom. He is always willing to pick me up and carry me when I get too tired to walk. He also is the **WORLD'S BEST TICKLER!!!!**



Janna is one of my friends too. She is my respite worker, she likes to teach me many

School

I love going to School! I have been going to school since I was 3 years old. I had a rough start because nobody knew really where to begin with me, I don't like to show people all the AMAZING skills I have,

I really enjoy my ABA class room with Miss Desiree, Miss Debbie, and Miss Carol! They all seemed to understand me so well. Too well maybe.... They push me to learn, communicate, walk up and down stairs, go down slides, and eat independently. I also like all the therapists that work so hard with me and I have a GREAT principal that makes sure all my needs are met!

Here are some ways you can help me be successful:

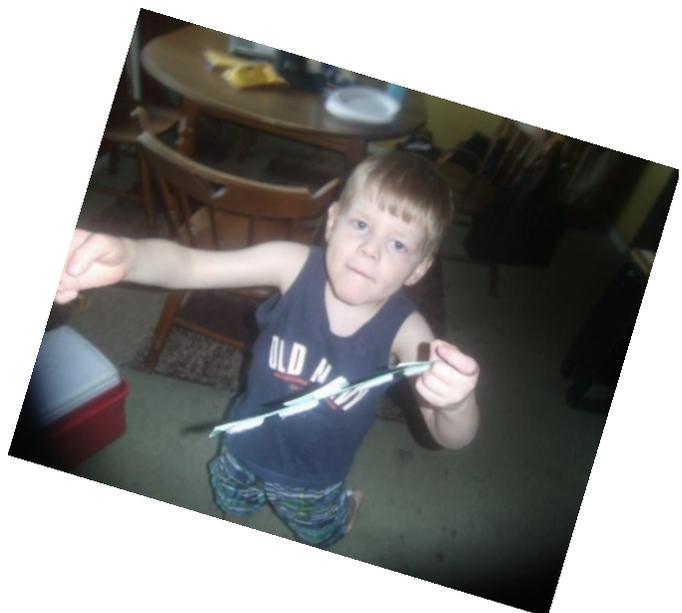
- To get me to focus sometimes I need "deep pressure" or some rough gross motor play. I LOVE being tickled!
- I don't like writing! I don't like holding a pencil or crayon, But I will type if you stabilize my arm. sometimes I don't know where my body is in space,
- I really like rein forcers, some of my favorites are my I-pad, Reese Cups, and Doritos.
- I like to make people think I am not very bright, then I don't have to work as hard. I am a MASTER MANIPULATOR!
- I need reminded to keep my hands out of my mouth,
- I really do NOT like this potty training thing.... Here is my logic... If you will change my pull up, why would I take time out of my life to use the potty!! However my mom and dad say I have to accomplish this life skill. My mom will give you ideas in what best for me.

*If you have any questions please feel free to contact the Ritchie peeps, They know me well and can answer most any questions.

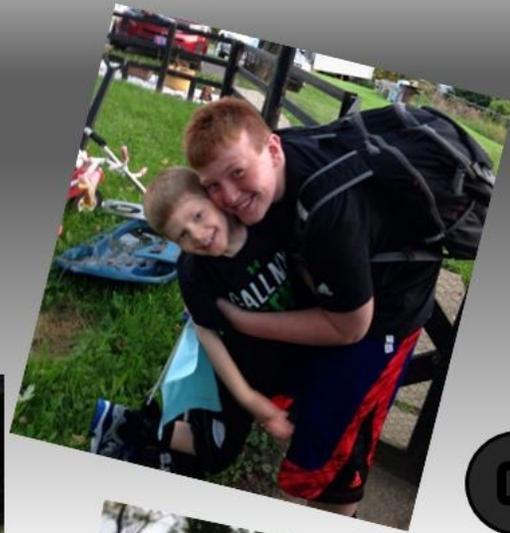


Look what I can do!!

I MASTERED PECS! Many people thought I couldn't discriminate with pictures. But my mom believed in me she kept everything consistent with what the SLP at School was doing and NOW I am I have my very own communication device!



I can operate an I-pad and I-pod better than most adults, I tend to use YouTube videos to express my sarcasm or even to pick on my brother, mom, teachers, and other friends. Never hurtful, only for a good laugh for both of us. My device is limited to only so much sarcasm, so I have to make up for it somewhere!



I can ride horses! I kinda like it.....
 I mean it is probably the only
 outside activity I tolerate!
 Oh and going down a slide sometimes
 too!



Always
 Unique
 Totally
 Interesting
 Sometimes
 Mysterious

I have a lot of FUN!

DIFFERENT
NOT LESS



The 5 Most Common Myths About Autism

People with autism do not make eye contact.

Fact: People with autism do often struggle with social interactions. However, they do make eye contact.

You might even be lucky enough to get a smile as well.

People with autism do not show affection.

Fact: They can and do show affection. People with autism process things differently than we do. So the affection may not always come in the form we want, but they will show it in their own way.

Kouper gives kisses. He even likes to be cuddled. Each individual with autism is so different, that you can't group them all into one category. Some will have problems showing affection, while others won't. But this does not mean that they can't learn to be affectionate.

People with autism are all geniuses.

Fact: They are not all geniuses. Having autism does not mean they can't be a genius, either. As I said before, they are individuals. They may exhibit skills that are above normal in one area, but be below normal in others. An autistic child may be able to recite every word to his/her favorite movie. Then, not be able to find the words to tell you he/she wants a drink.

People with autism do not talk.

Fact: While there are some people with autism who do not talk, this is not true for everyone. Many people with autism can communicate normally. Those who don't talk can still communicate using sign language, pictures, or computers. Others may be able to physically speak by repeating what they hear, but not communicate what they want or need.

Autism can be outgrown.

Fact: It can't be outgrown, but it can be treated.

Many people with autism are married, have kids, and are employed, leading productive and happy lives. The next time you meet someone with autism, remember these facts, rather than the myths. Take the time to get to know them without judging them based on things that might be true.

The most important fact, is that each person with autism is unique and special in their own way. They have hopes, dreams, and the ability to accomplish their dreams, just like the rest of us.

