

NF HERO COMICS

CHILDREN'S
TUMOR
FOUNDATION
ENDING NF
THROUGH RESEARCH

MOXIE & SPARX



EXPLAIN NF1

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KNOCK
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HEY MARIA, WANNA COME OUTSIDE AND PLAY KICK BALL?

I DO, BUT I CAN'T RIGHT NOW. MY MOM IS GETTING READY TO TAKE ME TO THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE.

WHY DO YOU HAVE TO GO TO THE DOCTOR SO MUCH? IT'S NOT FAIR!

IT'S BECAUSE I HAVE NF1.

HUH?

NEUROFIBROMATOSIS TYPE 1.

YOU SAY IT LIKE, "NUR-ROW-FI-BRO-MA-TOE-SIS." IT'S CALLED NF1 FOR SHORT.

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

WELL... UM... IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN.



OKAY. I'M GONNA HAVE NF MY WHOLE LIFE, SO I MIGHT AS WELL GET GOOD AT TALKING ABOUT IT.

THAT'S THE RIGHT ATTITUDE! COME ON.

WHOOOSH!

NF includes **NEUROFIBROMATOSIS** and **SCHWANNOMATOSIS**



THERE ARE SEVERAL DIFFERENT TYPES OF NF.



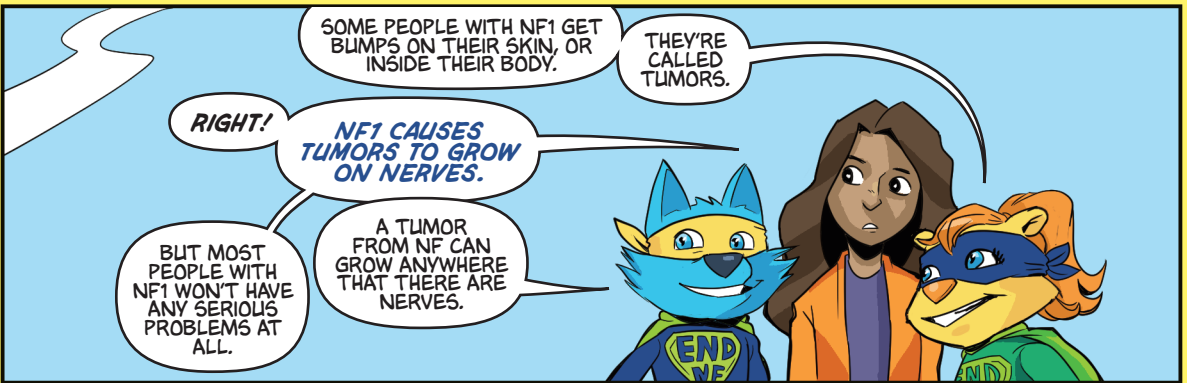
WHICH TYPE DO YOU HAVE, MARIA?

I HAVE NF1.

MY PARENTS FOUND OUT WHEN I WAS BORN WITH THESE SPOTS. THEY CALL THEM *CAFE AU LAIT* SPOTS, CUZ THEY'RE BROWN LIKE COFFEE.



NF1 IS THE MOST COMMON TYPE OF NF. **1 IN 2,500** PEOPLE ARE BORN WITH **NF1**.



SOME PEOPLE WITH NF1 GET BUMPS ON THEIR SKIN, OR INSIDE THEIR BODY.

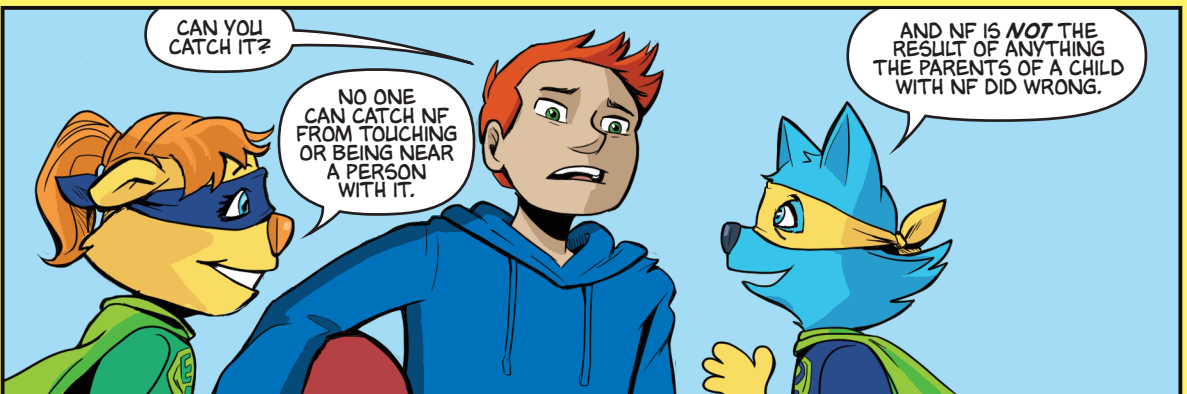
THEY'RE CALLED TUMORS.

RIGHT!

NF1 CAUSES TUMORS TO GROW ON NERVES.

BUT MOST PEOPLE WITH NF1 WON'T HAVE ANY SERIOUS PROBLEMS AT ALL.

A TUMOR FROM NF CAN GROW ANYWHERE THAT THERE ARE NERVES.



CAN YOU CATCH IT?

NO ONE CAN CATCH NF FROM TOUCHING OR BEING NEAR A PERSON WITH IT.

AND NF IS **NOT** THE RESULT OF ANYTHING THE PARENTS OF A CHILD WITH NF DID WRONG.

LOTS OF THE KIDS WHO HAVE NF HAVE A HARD TIME IN SCHOOL. WHICH IS WHY IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT FOR TEACHERS TO KNOW ABOUT IT TOO.

SOMETIMES PEOPLE WITH NF HAVE FRECKLING.

OR PROBLEMS WITH THEIR EYES.

OR TROUBLE WITH THEIR BONES.

SOME KIDS WITH NF HAVE A HARD TIME LEARNING NEW THINGS.

IT'S OKAY TO ASK FOR HELP!

NF CAN AFFECT ANY PART OF THE BODY.

NF AFFECTS EACH PERSON WHO HAS IT DIFFERENTLY.

CAN BOYS GET IT TOO?

IT DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU'RE A BOY OR A GIRL, OR WHAT COLOR YOUR SKIN IS, OR WHERE YOU'RE FROM. ANYONE CAN BE BORN WITH NF.

HALF OF THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE NF INHERITED IT FROM A PARENT.

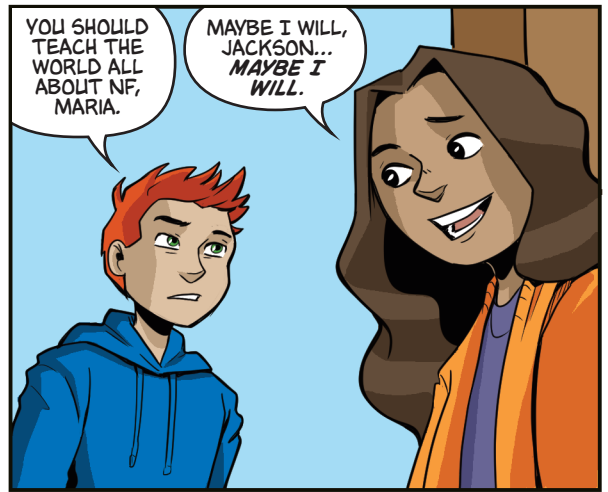
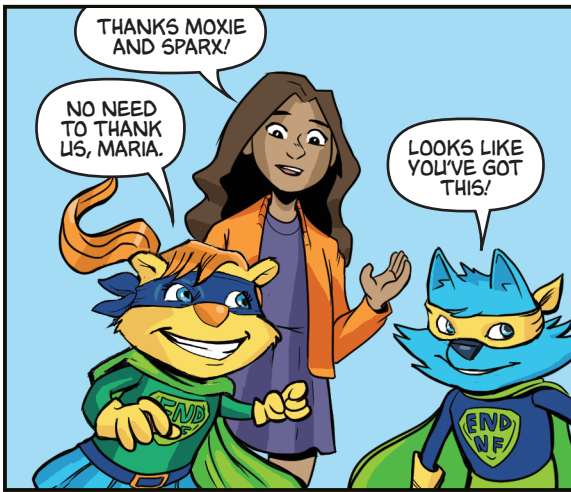
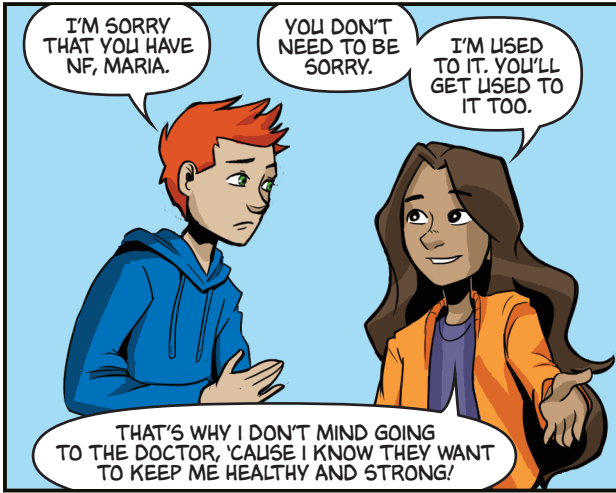
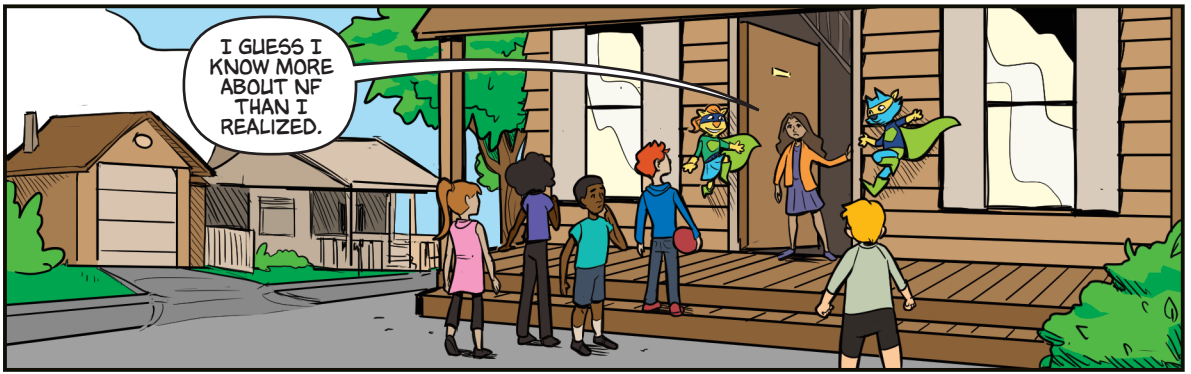
LIKE THE WAY I INHERITED GREEN EYES FROM MY MOM!

THE OTHER HALF OF THE TIME, A CHILD WITH NF IS THE ONLY PERSON IN THE FAMILY WHO HAS IT.

HOW DOES THAT HAPPEN?

WHAT CAUSES NF IS A CHANGE IN A GENE. A GENE IS A SEQUENCE OF DNA, WHICH IS THE GENETIC INFORMATION THAT IS PASSED DOWN FROM PARENTS TO CHILDREN. SO IF A PARENT HAS IT, THEY CAN PASS IT ON TO THEIR CHILD. BUT SOMETIMES A GENE JUST CHANGES ON IT'S OWN.

MARIA... YOU JUST EXPLAINED NF!





**MOXIE
& SPARX**

EXPLAIN NF1

NEUROFIBROMATOSIS TYPE 1,
OR **NF1**, IS A GENETIC CONDITION
THAT CAUSES TUMORS TO GROW
ON NERVES.

**NF1 OCCURS IN
2,500 BIRTHS.**

**THE CHILDREN'S TUMOR
FOUNDATION (CTF)**

IS A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
DEDICATED TO FINDING TREATMENTS
FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH NF. TO DO
THIS, CTF DRIVES RESEARCH, EXPANDS
KNOWLEDGE, AND ADVANCES CARE
FOR THE NF COMMUNITY.

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**LET'S
END
NF!**