

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of children with epilepsy, but particularly for one of my current students, Brock Swapp. My name is Jodi Sipple, I teach a self-contained Special Education class at Red Cliff's Elementary. I have had the privilege of working with Brock Swapp over the last two and a half years. I have also been his summer school teacher and his special needs baseball and soccer coach. I love Brock as if he was my own child and his regression in school, due to seizures, on a daily basis makes me very sad.

Over the last two and a half years, I have watched Brock's seizures increase during the school day. After each seizure, Brock seems to lose anything that he had earlier retained. It is so heartbreaking to watch a child gain and then lose so quickly. Because of his seizures, Brock is unable to attend school in a regular education classroom. His seizures affect his fine motor skills, gross motor skills, and academic knowledge. He often drools and is unable to communicate his needs. His speech is slow and slurred.

As a parent of my own special needs child, I know how frustrating it can be to try medication after medication without anything truly working. It is also frustrating to teachers who work with these students. I am in support of Brock having the opportunity to try Alepsia and hope that this type of "medication" will be an answer for the students, teachers, but especially for the families whose hearts break daily by watching their beautiful children slowly slip away.

Sincerely,

Jodi Sipple