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FIGHT OVER 100 DISEASES WITH ONE DONATION
These are just a few of the over 100 liver-related illnesses that threaten the lives of more than 2 million Canadian men, women and children. For 25 years now, the Canadian Liver Foundation has been leading the fight against liver disease and to continue, we need your help.
One simple act of kindness can go so very far.
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1320 Yonge Street, Suite 301 Toronto, Ontario 1-800-563-5483

Lad is true definition of 'miracle boy'

Jordan spent first 105 days of his life in Toronto-area health care facilities.

BY SERENA WILLOUGHBY Staff Writer

Jordan Emmanuel Estrada is truly a miracle child and his family has a lot to celebrate this Christmas Day. Five years ago, Monica Estrada gave birth to a boy who weighed less than two pounds.

He was three and a half months premature, born on Christmas Day, but not due until Good Friday.

Doctors told the terrified Thornhill parents if their baby survived he would be severely developmentally challenged and blind. His lungs were underdeveloped and he would likely be anemic.

Although Ms Estrada was 41 years old, her prenatal doctor's exams had gone well and they were expecting a healthy baby in the spring.

Jordan spent the first 105 days of his life at Sunnybrook and Women's College Hospital in Toronto.

"Leaving my baby at the hospital was like leaving my heart behind," the mother of three said.

Ms Estrada is thankful for the excellent care her son received at the hospital, but said, at first, they weren't sure if the tiny baby would live.

"We couldn't prepare for him to come home because we weren't sure he was going to make it," Ms. Estrada said. These days, there is little evidence of



Jordan Estrada celebrates his fifth birthday on Christmas Day. The Thornhill boy has defied the odds after being born 3 1/2 months premature.

the trauma Jordan suffered when he came into the world.

He is an active child who enjoys music, dancing and counting. He attends classes half days at a Montessori Central and half days at York Hill Public School and loves working on his computer. Jordan has cochlear implants that help with a certain amount of damage to his hearing and he receives speech therapy three times a week.

Although he walked later and began to speak later than other children, he enjoys a healthy life.

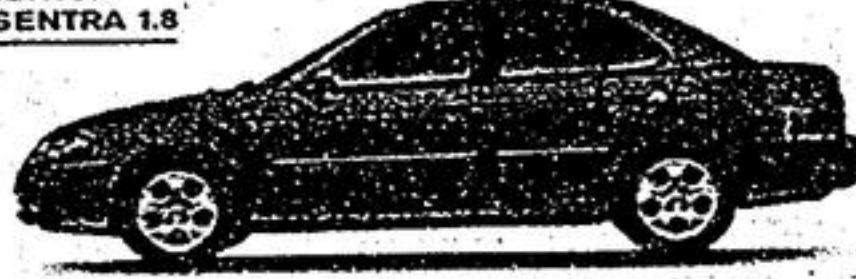
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