



Tuberous Sclerosis Association

CHANNEL 4 TV

BORN TO BE DIFFERENT

Programme 1

**Thursday 9 June 2011
9pm**

Programme 2

**Thursday 16 June 2011
9pm**

Programme 3

**Thursday 23 June 2011
9pm**

For 11 years Channel 4 have been following the lives of six remarkable children all born with a disability. Zoe, Emily, Hamish, Shelbie, Nathan and William all face different challenges as they pass the milestone of their tenth birthdays. Whilst some children are able to voice their own feelings towards their disabilities others continue to need very high levels of support. Three children face significant surgery over the programmes, but as usual the film crew catch the highs as well as the lows of raising a child with disability.

William has Tuberous Sclerosis and also has complex epilepsy, severe learning difficulties, autistic spectrum disorder, challenging behaviour and ADHD. During the three programmes he has the joy of his tenth birthday, a huge milestone for the whole family. Finally the family are able to adapt their home to make it more suitable for William, who has variable mobility due mainly to his epilepsy. His behaviour then shows significant deterioration, his SEGA brain tumour has grown and is causing headaches and irritability. The family face the trauma of invasive brain surgery to remove the tumour. William has spent so much time in hospital over his life he has a significant fear of any medical procedure.

William (11) lives with his Mum, Dad and little sister Jessica (5) in Bury St Edmunds Suffolk. William has very high care needs and two years ago Paula (his Mum and main carer) was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. Family life goes on regardless and the documentary shows the joy and challenges of raising a child who was 'Born to Be Different'. As Paula says 'With MS you are advised to get lots of sleep and avoid stress, I guess whoever gave this advice had never met William'. The Davis's admit that life with William can be really tough but his winning smile always carries them through, and at least we never have time to be bored!



'Born to Be Different' was produced by Ricochet Ltd (Exec Producer: Patrick Holland, Director/Series Producer: Anna Stickland)

IMPORTANT – help us to spread the message!

Photocopy the flyer for friends, family, work colleagues, carers, nurses, teachers, social workers, the GP, the Consultant..... put a copy on the notice-board at work, at the 'club', in the local supermarket or shops, at the Health Centre, GP surgery, hospital.....

For further information contact:

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