



# Preemie Family

## Preemie Life

### *Amelia Faith McDermott*



Photo Credit: John McDermott (Dad)

**Gest. Age:**  
26 weeks, 1 day

**Weight:**  
2 lbs.

**Time In NICU:**  
78 days

**Proudest Moment (NICU):**  
Being present when our daughter opened her eyes for the first time after 15 days and we were the first people in full view.

Coming Soon:

Check [www.PreemieWorld.com](http://www.PreemieWorld.com) to see how Amelia is doing now.

### Parent Tip:

*Live in the moment.  
Every child is a  
miracle and every  
minute is a blessing.*

## Advocate: The Preemie Petition

PreemieWorld was alerted that the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) is planning to further restrict their guidelines surrounding the drug Synagis (for RSV prevention in preemies and high-risk infants). PreemieWorld launched **The Preemie Petition** for parents and pros to join together in battling this change. **Please sign and pass it on:** <http://bit.ly/PreemiePetition>

## Preemie Freebie: Preemie Tough

PreemieWorld provides a number of free handouts to be used in the NICU and beyond in its "Freebies For You" section of the website. **This month's freebie is a special logo, "Preemie Tough."** "Parents often call their preemies fighters, so it made sense to create a logo around that theme," comments Deb Discenza, co-Founder of PreemieWorld, LLC. "This gives

parents and pros the ability to celebrate preemies on Facebook and Twitter in a unique and united way." Parents and professionals alike will appreciate this freebie in that it is easy to print and reproduce.

**Download it here now:** <http://bit.ly/PreemieTough>  
**and check out more like this on our site here:**  
<http://bit.ly/PreemieFreebies>

## To Do List



**CONGRATS:** [Trichelle Smith](#) is our winner for the "little man" DVD contest giveaway for June. Congrats!



**LIKED US YET?:** PreemieWorld is doing another PreemieWorld Facebook page contest. See page 2 of this newsletter for details!



Download PreemieWorld's FREE tools <http://bit.ly/PreemieFreebies> to use and to pass onto others.



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

*The British 10k*  
Tommy's  
July 13, 2014  
London, England United Kingdom  
[www.tommys.org/running/british-10k](http://www.tommys.org/running/british-10k)

*Golfing for Graham's Foundation*  
Graham's Foundation  
July 19, 2014  
Bayonne, NJ  
[www.GrahamsFoundation.org](http://www.GrahamsFoundation.org)

*Have an event you want to share with our community? Contact us at:*  
[connect@preemieworld.com](mailto:connect@preemieworld.com)

*Tools and Resources  
for the Preemie Community*

## Term: Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)

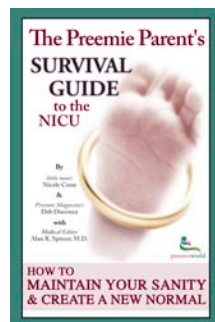
**Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV):** An illness initially resembling a modest cold in adults. It can be dangerous for newborns – and even worse for preemies – since it is highly contagious and complications from the virus can develop into a major respiratory infection. Many premature infants with Chronic Lung Disease will be eligible for Synagis injections on an annual basis during cold and flu season.



### Sign the Preemie Petition!

*The Preemie Petition was launched in mid-2014 to push back against upcoming restrictions to the Synagis guidelines. We are told that these new guidelines will leave the majority of premature babies without access to this important medication. Join thousands of parents and pros globally who are signing our petition:*

<http://bit.ly/PreemiePetition>



*This excerpt is from  
The Preemie Parent's  
Guide to Survival in the  
NICU on sale at  
[www.PreemieWorld.com](http://www.PreemieWorld.com)  
\*\*We do bulk orders for  
hospitals\*\*  
[connect@preemieworld.com](mailto:connect@preemieworld.com)*

## Support: Early Buds



**Year Established:** 2010

**Web:** [www.earlybuds.org.nz](http://www.earlybuds.org.nz)

**Outreach:** New Zealand parents of premature babies from 23 weeks to 36 weeks.

**Background:** After the birth of her son Lucas at 28 weeks, founder Janelle Baine wanted to create an organization that would offer hope and support to other parents through that same journey.

**Programs:** Providing parents of premature babies in New Zealand with a free "Prem Pack" filled with goodies from their generous sponsors.

## PreemieWorld: "Like" Us On Facebook & You Could Win!



Visit PreemieWorld's FB page at:  
<http://bit.ly/FBPreemie>

**"Like" our FB page  
from 7/1/14 to 7/24/14 and you  
could win a copy of the award-  
winning *little man* DVD from  
PreemieWorld!**

<http://bit.ly/FBPreemie>

*Parents & Professionals:  
Subscribe to our FREE newsletters  
today @ [www.PreemieWorld.com](http://www.PreemieWorld.com)*

**The Details:**

**By:**  
Diesel Films

**Website:**  
[www.MattTheFilm.com](http://www.MattTheFilm.com)

**View the Movie at:**  
<http://bit.ly/1huDG8f>

**MATT: The Film**

MATT is a true testimony to the resilience of preemies as they get older and take on life.

The short film is centered around Matt (who had been born 3 months premature at 1.5 lbs. and had suffered brain trauma), is now a senior at Santa Monica High School and becomes a member of the varsity football team and later the basketball team.

The film is a solid reminder of what it means to break barriers to be a part of society despite the odds. Matt on his own brought together a team, a school and a community that showed him respect and admiration.

**After the NICU:  
Visiting the Dentist**

*Though your preemie's teeth might not even be in yet, a visit to the dentist early on is a smart idea. Here's why:*

- Some preemies have what is called *delayed eruption*, meaning they can come in later than is normally expected.
- A dentist can give you some tips on gum care and pre-brushing ideas to help with teething and any other issues can come up.
- Since teeth can affect feeding, talk to the dentist about ways to keep your child moving forward on feeding though the teeth might not be in yet.
- See if your dentist would suggest you take your child to see a pediatric dentist.

**Premie Support Online****On the Premie Support Forum on INSPIRE:**

Want to connect with *over 19,000 other parents of preemies online?* Check out the [www.Inspire.com](http://www.Inspire.com) **Premie Support forum**. It is the largest and most active forum online and *moderated by PremieWorld's own Deb Discenza*. The "rooms" range from "In the NICU" to "Going Home and Family" to "Growing Up and Education" along with more in-depth areas such as "Preemies with CP," "Preemies with Feeding Issues," and "Premie Tips." Check out some of our more recent topics:

"34-weeker Help"

"25 Week PROM"

"BPD"

**On PremieWorld's Twitter Page:**

"URGENT: Premie RSV Drug is Being Further Restricted – Please Sign Our Petition NOW – <http://ow.ly/xYNT0>"

**On PremieWorld's Facebook Page:**

"NEW PREMIE PARENTS – Help a FORMER PREMIE get her PhD – <http://ow.ly/xWfiq>"

**On PremieWorld's LinkedIN Group:**

"ARTICLE: This is What Caring for Preemies Looked Like 75 Years Ago – <http://ow.ly/xNYny>"

## Get "Social" With Us!



[www.PremieWorld.com](http://www.PremieWorld.com)  
[www.LittleMantheMovie.com](http://www.LittleMantheMovie.com)



@PremieWorld



- PremieWorld
- Premie Parent's Survival Guide to the NICU



PremieWorld



Check out other LinkedIN groups we moderate:

- NICU Professionals
- Early Intervention Professionals
- Premie Parent Support Group Leaders
- Premie Parents

*Tools and Resources  
for the Premie Community*



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## Tips: Preparing for a Pediatric Dentist

*Many preemie parents decide to take their child to a pediatric dentist. These dental specialists are like the pediatrician for teeth. Learn more:*

- Don't know exactly what pediatric dentists are or do? Learn here: <http://bit.ly/1sGoYvw>
- Ask your pediatrician if a pediatric dentist is a good choice for your child. If so you can find a pediatric dentist here at the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry website at: [www.aapd.org](http://www.aapd.org)
- Pediatric dentists are an excellent way to educate yourself and your child on proper oral healthcare in terms of brushing, flossing, and even a healthy diet.
- Not all dental plans cover pediatric dentists. Make sure to check your health plan before making an appointment so you know if you are in-network or out-of-network. If you think you have a specific need for a pediatric dentist that warrants coverage, see if your pediatrician or your family dentist can help talk to your insurance company.