



It only takes one person to make a large difference. At only 10 years old, Maddux Motlow fundraised \$700 for the American Heart Association for their ongoing research and community involvement.



Sporting his new gear from the Hollywood Police Department, fifth-grader Maddux Motlow stands next to school resource officer Catlin Giffen after spending a day helping keep the school safe. (Courtesy Tomie Motlow)

The fifth-grader raised the money through a fundraiser at Driftwood Elementary School in April. He raised more money than the other students, so for his efforts, Driftwood named him "Officer for the Day," a title that he proudly carried with him as he helped school resource officer Catlin Giffen keep the premises safe.

"It felt pretty nice knowing I'm helping people with sick hearts," Maddux said.

As an officer, Maddux helped keep the gates locked, read to a kindergarten class and monitored the hallways. The Hollywood Police Department provided Maddux with a Hollywood Police Department hat, T-shirt and a duffel bag filled with gifts, including a soccer ball, shirts and a water bottle.



Maddux Motlow and school

**resource officer Catlin Giffen
read to a kindergarten class
at Driftwood Elementary
School. (Courtesy Tomie
Motlow)**

Even though the day was full of excitement, Maddux said that his favorite part - aside from not having to do schoolwork for half the day - was the sweet treats.

"My favorite part was having donuts; they were pretty tasty," he said. "My mom only lets me have cereal for breakfast."

Maddux's mom, Tomie Motlow, said she couldn't be prouder of Maddux's accomplishment. Maddux raised the money with help from his family and friends. While he encouraged his loved ones to donate in person, his mom and older sister shared the information on social media to get others to help.

"He was proud of himself. I'm proud of him," she said, explaining that school hasn't always been an easy environment for Maddux. "He has ADHD and he's been bullied a lot, but I'm glad he's had a chance to do this and shine for his school. It made us really proud."

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