Sibling Resources: A Bibliography of Selected Resources for Siblings of Children with Disabilities

**Articles Written for Adults**

*Brothers and Sisters of Children with Disabilities: An Annotated Bibliography.* 1990. Available through Portland State University, Publications Coordinator, Research and Training Center on Family Support and Children's Mental Health. $5. P.O. Box 751, Portland, OR, 92207-0751; (503) 725-4040.


**Books Written for Adults**


*Brothers, Sisters, and Special Needs: Information and Activities for Helping Young Siblings of Children with Chronic Illness and Developmental Disabilities.* Lobato, Debra J., Ph.D. Baltimore: Paul H. Brookes Publishing, 1995. Written for professionals, parents, and social workers, this curriculum is designed especially for young children, ages 3 to 8, whose sibling has a developmental disability or chronic illness.


Profiles of the Other Child: A Sibling Guide for Parents. McCaffrey, Frances Dwyer; Fish, T. Columbus: OSU Nisonger Center, Publications Department, 1989. A booklet about parents’ feelings and expectations concerning brothers and sisters of children with special needs. Ohio State University, 1581 Dodd Dr., Columbus, OH 43210-1296; (614) 292-0825.


Resources for Sibling Groups. A manual with lesson plans for sibling groups, age 4 and up; also information to develop successful siblings programs. Available at Family Resources Associates, 35 Haddon Ave., Shrewsbury, NJ 07702; (732) 747-5310.


Books for Children


Living with a Brother or Sister with Special Needs: A Book for Sibs. Meyer, D.J.; Vadasy, P.F.; Fewell, R.R. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1996. Provides useful information about specific handicapping conditions and a perceptive account of the emotions and concerns expressed by siblings whose lives have been touched by the presence of a child with special needs in the family. For young readers.


My Brother, Matthew. Thompson, Mary. Bethesda: Woodbine House, 1993. David tells what it's like to be the older brother of Matthew, who was born with a brain injury.


My Sister Is Different. Wright, Betty. Milwaukee: Raintree Children's Books, 1982. Carol learns some important truths about all his feelings toward his older sister Terry, who is mentally retarded, when he loses her in a department store. Ages 5-8.


Sibling Bibliography. Shrewsbury: Family Resource Associates. This bibliography was prepared specifically for siblings of children with disabilities. The majority of the book selections focus in some way on sibling relationships. They are useful for sibling groups and for parents and children to share together. Family Resource Associates Inc., 35 Haddon Avenue, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702; (732) 747-5310.


Special Kind of Sister. A. Smith, Lucia B. New York: Henry Holt & Co. Inc., 1979. A 7-year-old girl describes the demands as well as the opportunities her family experiences because her 5-year-old brother is viewed as different by others. Ages 4-8.


Take Wing. Little, Jean. Boston: Little, Brown and Co., 1968. Although her parents have not yet acknowledged his retardation, Laurel knows her younger brother is different and experiences mixed feelings toward him as she struggles to make friends with other children. Ages 10-14.


Where's Buddy? Roy, R. Chicago: Scholastic, 1986. A boom that illustrates the experience of Buddy, a 7-year-old boy with diabetes and his brother, Mike. The author addresses issues concerning family dynamics and sibling interaction for young readers.

**Newsletters**

For Siblings Only. Directed at 4-9-year-olds, this newsletter includes an original story, library resources, discussion of feelings and special definitions. Published quarterly. $12 per year. Family Resource Associates, 35 Haddon Avenue, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702; (732) 747-5310.

Sibling Forum. For pre-teens and teenagers. Includes sections focusing on feelings, problems and resources, library information, special definitions, feedback from readers, and web resource information. $12 per year. Family Resource Associates, 35 Haddon Avenue, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702; (732) 747-5310.

**Videos**

Brothers and Sisters—Growing Up with a Blind Sibling. 1992. (11 minutes) Eight brothers and sisters of children who are blind or visually impaired talk about how it is for them to grow up in a home where a sibling has a disability. Institute for Families of Blind Children, Mailstop 111, P.O. Box 54700, Los Angeles, CA 90054-0700; (323) 669-4649. ($10 to cover shipping and handling)

Just Call Him Matthew! (26 minutes, 1992) Six New Mexico children talk honestly about how it feels to have a brother or sister with a developmental disability, such as autism, cerebral palsy, or Down syndrome. This video was created by a parent for the Autism Society of America. Gay Finlayson, 9118 James Place NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111; (505) 291-9284. ($30)

The Next Step. (20 minutes) Discussions with young adult siblings of children with disabilities. Ohio State University, Nisonger Center, 1581 Dodd Drive, Columbus, OH 43210; (614) 292-0825.

**Organizations**

Family Resource Associates, Inc. Provides support and resources for brothers and sisters of children with disabilities. 35 Haddon Avenue, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702; (732) 747-5310.

Friends of Yale, New Haven Children's Hospital. Provides a program, We're Special Too! (a sibling program), which helps siblings deal with their feelings, and how the disability or illness of a sibling affects them too. P.O. Box 208064, New Haven, CT 06520-8064, (203) 688-2336, or visit the web site: www.thefriendsonline.org/programs/werespecialtoo.html

Parent Advocacy Coalition for Educational Rights. PACER'S programs help parents and children become informed and participating members in the life of a child with disabilities. In addition to videos, publications and newsletters, PACER offers many workshops in Minnesota. 8161 Normandale Boulevard, Minneapolis, MN 55437-1044, (952) 838-9000. For more information visit the web site at: PACER.org

The Sibling Support Project of The Arc of the United States. Creates peer support and educational opportunities through Sibshops and online sibling-related listservs for brothers and sisters of children with special needs. Donald Meyer, Director, 6512 23rd Ave NW, Suite 213, Seattle, WA 98117; (206) 297-6368. For more information visit their web site at: www.thearc.org/siblingsupport