

SIBSHOPS™ are best described as opportunities for brothers and sisters of children with special health and developmental needs to obtain peer support within a recreational context.

SIBSHOPS™ acknowledge that being the brother or sister of a person with special needs is for some a good thing, others a not-so good thing, and for many somewhere in between. They reflect a belief that brothers and sisters have much to offer one another -- if they are given a chance.

The **SIBSHOPS™** model intersperses information and discussion activities with new games (designed to be unique, off-beat, and appealing to a wide ability range). The activities are often a combination of crafts, gross motor fun, silly, zany games, and snack time.

Millennium Children's Therapy facilitates **SIBSHOPS™** events and is proudly supported by Sachem SEPTA. Faith Katzman, a pediatric Speech Pathologist and Sibling, and Elyse Pimsler, a pediatric Occupational therapist, facilitate the growing group in its third year at Sachem.

<u>When</u>: Events will be held once monthly on Saturday's (10/24/15, 11/14/15, 12/5/15, 1/9/16, 2/6/16, 3/5/16, 4/2/16, 5/7/16 and 6/4/16) from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The cost for each session is \$35, which includes art materials, snacks, and pizza.

Where: Nokomis Elementary School (across the street from Sachem Public Library) 151 Holbrook Road Holbrook, NY 11741

Who should attend: Siblings of children with special health and developmental needs. Siblings should be between the ages of 7 and 12, but call us for possible exceptions should you have a sibling who is interested beyond this age group. Siblings can bring close friends or cousins who have close contact with the family as well.

If you are interested in signing up a child for a **SIBSHOPS™** event, please e-mail Patti Waszkiewicz at pwasz005@gmail.com or call at (631) 807-0762.

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