

# Inside Info



A newsletter for parents of children with sensory impairments,  
published by the RIDBC Renwick Centre Library.

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## Theme

This issue focuses on the everyday relationship challenges faced by families living with sensory impairment.

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## Internet Version

InsideInfo is also available on the Internet - including video and audio content - at:

[www.ridbc.org.au/renwick/library/insideinfo/2008/issue1.html](http://www.ridbc.org.au/renwick/library/insideinfo/2008/issue1.html)

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## Resources

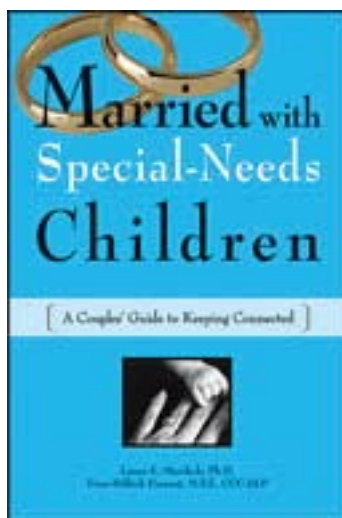
All resources in this edition are available or accessible from the RIDBC Renwick Centre Library. Our contact details are listed on page 7 of this issue.



## Book Review

Married with Special-Needs Children: a Couples' Guide to Keeping Connected

Authors: Laura E Marshak, Fran Pollock Prezant  
Publisher: Woodbine House, 2007  
ISBN Number: 1890627100  
Renwick Library Number: 649.151 / MARS



This very positive book recognises that there is tremendous stress placed on any marriage when a couple has a child with a disability. Based on the authors' professional experience in counselling, it includes candid anecdotes from parents who have "lived through it".

Practical advice is given in this sensible, compassionate and comprehensive guide.

Addressing a range of specific concerns and issues including communication breakdown, stress management, conflict of parenting styles, divorce, romance and intimacy, blended families and remarriage, this guide provides problem-solving strategies and realistic suggestions to help your marriage succeed.

## Factsheet

### Siblings of Children with Disabilities Factsheet

This 10 page Word Doc produced by the Council for Exceptional Children discusses how children are affected by having a brother or sister with a disability, and what support can be provided to siblings of students with disabilities.

[www.uh.edu/chcc/Research/ERIC\\_WEBSITE\\_SIBLINGS.doc](http://www.uh.edu/chcc/Research/ERIC_WEBSITE_SIBLINGS.doc)



## Journal Articles

### **An Interview with Don Meyer**

Journal: The Exceptional Parent  
Authors: Effie Laman, Michael F Shaughnessy  
Details: Jul 2007, Volume 37, Issue 7, page 42, 5 pages

Siblings of children with various exceptionalities or disabilities are often asked to supervise, care and ultimately accept full-time responsibility. These siblings may experience a wide range of emotions that may dissipate, intensify or morph throughout life.

### **Siblings' Role in Occupational Therapy**

Journal: The Exceptional Parent  
Author: Carolyn O Cantu  
Details: Jun 2003, Volume 33, Issue 6, page 40

Cantu discusses the benefits of sibling group therapy, its clinical settings, and sibling support services. Occupational therapists often find it necessary to plan and implement selected therapeutic activities that include sibling participation. Activity or play therapy in sibling groups provides positive therapeutic outcomes for children requiring intervention and interactive learning for their siblings.

### **We're Here Too!**

Journal: The Exceptional Parent  
Authors: Carol L Russell, Cassandra M Russell, Mikelle E Russell  
Details: Jun 2003, Volume 33, Issue 6, Page 36

Russell et al detail unusual concerns and needs of siblings of children with special needs, including over-identification, embarrassment, guilt, resentment, increased responsibilities, pressure to achieve, and isolation, loneliness and loss. Moreover, they identify unusual opportunities for enhancing sibling relationships, including maturity and insight, self-concept/social competence, tolerance, pride, advocacy, and loyalty.



## Web-sites

### **Raising Children with a Disability**

Topics covering your child's disability, family life and your feelings, disability rights and the law, as well as film clips and a disability reference.

[http://raisingchildren.net.au/children\\_with\\_disabilities/raising\\_children\\_with\\_disabilities.html](http://raisingchildren.net.au/children_with_disabilities/raising_children_with_disabilities.html)

### **Siblings of Disabled Children Factsheet**

This fact sheet is about the brothers and sisters of children who have a severe disability or long-term illness and is written for parents.

[www.parenttoparentofga.org/roadmap/library/libraryarticlestopicssiblings.htm](http://www.parenttoparentofga.org/roadmap/library/libraryarticlestopicssiblings.htm)

### **When Special Needs Spark Sibling Rivalry**

It's natural for parents to focus their energies on children with special needs. But it's also important not to overlook their siblings.

[www.parenttoparentofga.org/roadmap/library/libraryarticlestopicssiblingrivalry.htm](http://www.parenttoparentofga.org/roadmap/library/libraryarticlestopicssiblingrivalry.htm)

### **Siblings Australia Inc.**

National organisation committed to enhancing the wellbeing of the siblings of children with disabilities.

[www.siblingsaustralia.org.au](http://www.siblingsaustralia.org.au)

### **Raising Deaf Kids**

Information about children with hearing loss, published by the Deafness and Family Communication Center.

[www.raisingdeafkids.org/about.php](http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/about.php)

### **Siblings of Disabled Have Their Own Troubles**

An article about children who grow up with siblings who have disabilities.

[www.fathersnetwork.org/970.html](http://www.fathersnetwork.org/970.html)



## Books on this Topic

Please contact us to borrow these or any of the other 6,000 books available from the Library.



### **Bullied and teased or just another kid?**

Authors: Jude MacArthur and Michael Gaffney  
 Year: c2001  
 Renwick Library Number: 371.58 / MACA



### **Breakthrough parenting for children with special needs**

Author: Judy Winter  
 Year: c2006  
 Renwick Library Number: 649.151 / WINT



### **Brother, sisters and special needs**

Author: Debra J Lobato  
 Year: c1990  
 Renwick Library Number: 362.33 / LOBO



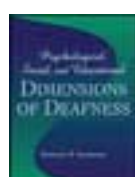
### **The effects of genetic hearing impairment in the family**

Editors: D Stephens and L Jones  
 Year: c2006  
 Renwick Library Number: 617.8042 STEP-1



### **Finding a new path: guidance for parents of young children who are visually impaired or blind**

Author: Canadian National Institute for the Blind  
 Year: c2002  
 Renwick Library Number: 649.1511 / CANA



### **Psychological, social and educational dimensions of deafness**

Authors: Barbara R Schirmer  
 Year: c2001  
 Renwick Library Number: 305.908162 / SCHI -1

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**Special children, challenged parents: the struggles and rewards of raising a child with a disability**

Author: Robert A. Naseef  
 Year: c2001  
 Renwick Library Number: 649.151 / NASE



**Hearing differently: the impact of hearing impairment on family life**

Author: R A. Morgan-Jones  
 Year: c2000  
 Renwick Library Number: 362.423 / MORG



**Siblings: brothers and sisters of children with special needs**

Author: Kate Strohm  
 Year: c2002  
 Renwick Library Number: 362.4043 / STRO



**More than a Mom**

Authors: Amy Baskin and Heather Fawcett  
 Year: c2006  
 Renwick Library Number: 649.15 / BASK



**Special siblings: growing up with someone with a disability**

Author: Mary McHugh  
 Year: c2003  
 Renwick Library Number: 362.4043 / MCHU



**Parents and families of children with disabilities**

Authors: C R Fiedler, R L Simpson and D M Clark  
 Year: c2007  
 Renwick Library Number: 371.904 / FIED

## DVD-Videos



**Seeing things in a new way: what happens when you have a blind baby**

Year: c2006  
 Renwick Library Number: DVD 371.911 / VISU -1

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## Library Opening Hours

The Library is closed on weekends and public holidays.  
These hours may be subject to change.

### **During semester**

Monday, Thursday and Friday - 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Tuesday - 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

Wednesday - 9.00 am to 8:00 pm

### **Non-semester**

Monday to Friday - 9:00 am to 5:00 pm (Closed Monday 1-2 pm)

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## Library Address

RIDBC Renwick Centre Library  
Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children  
361-365 North Rocks Rd  
North Rocks NSW 2151  
Australia

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## Mail Address

RIDBC Renwick Centre Library  
Private Bag 29  
Parramatta NSW 2124  
Australia

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## Contact Details

Telephone: +61 (0)2 9872 0285  
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Email: [renwick@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:renwick@newcastle.edu.au)

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