

Dear Parents,

The GIZMO Sibling Group is an opportunity for brothers and sisters of children with special health and developmental needs to obtain peer support and education within a recreational context.

The Gizmo Sibling Group will be a lively celebration of the many contributions made by brothers and sisters of children with special needs. The Sibling will acknowledge that being the brother or sister of a person with special needs is for some a good thing, others not so good and for others, somewhere in between. The group reflects a belief that brothers and sisters have much to offer one another.

The Gizmo Sibling Group seeks to provide siblings with opportunity for peer support. Because the group is designed (primarily) for school age children (ages 7 and up), peer support will be provided within a lively, recreational context that emphasizes the “kids’-eye-view.”

The Gizmo Sibling Group is not therapy, although its effect may be therapeutic for some children.

The Sibling Group offers a library of books to be checked out by sibs and parents.

The Sibling Group will be held during Kids’ Camp. Each session will be approximately one hour in length. The group will be facilitated by a team of service providers along with adult/adolescent siblings of children with special needs.

The Group Goals:

- 1. The Gizmo Sibling Group will provide brothers and sisters of children with special needs an opportunity to meet other siblings in a relaxed, recreational setting.***
- 2. The Gizmo Sibling Group will provide brothers and sisters with opportunities to discuss common joys and concerns with other siblings of children with special needs.***
- 3. The Gizmo Sibling Group will provide siblings with an opportunity to learn how others handle situations commonly experienced by siblings of children with special needs.***

If you have any questions or concerns about your child’s participation in the Gizmo Sibling Group, please speak with your team leader when assigned.