The ASM Lending Library is a valuable resource for parents, caregivers, educators, children and professionals working with children and adults on the autism spectrum. The Lending Library is a Free resource for Maine residents. The collection can be viewed on the ASM website, or we can mail a printed list to you. To receive library items, stop by the office or have material sent to you. (We include return postage.) The library has its own room with a TV to watch DVD’s. Children are always welcome to play with toys or read.

Lending Library online: www.asmonline.org/library.asp
or call 1-800-273-5200

Here are just a few of the available titles available for children:

**Young Readers**
Tobin Learns to Make Friends (3 and up) by Diane Murrell
Friends Learn About Tobin (3 and up) Diane Murrell
Autism is...? (3 and up) Ymkje Wideman-van der Laan

**Siblings**
Views from Our Shoes by (9 and up)
by Donald Joseph Meyer
All About My Brother (4 and up)
by Sarah Peralta
Everybody Is Different (9 and up)
by Fiona Bleach

**Junior Readers**
Socially Curious and Curiously Social by
Michelle Garcia Winner & Pamela Crooke
Temple Grandin How the Girl Who Loved Cows Embraced Autism and Changed the World by Sy Montgomery
Different Like Me; My Book of Autism
Heroes by Jennifer Elder
The Asperkids’ (Secret) Book of Social Rules
by Jennifer Cook O’Toole
Diary of a Social Detective by Jeffrey E. Jessum

**Model Me Kids (dvds)** is a teaching tool and demonstrates social skills in different environments. Real children model each skill. Videos are available for all ages.

The Autism Society of Maine provides education and resources to support the valued lives of individuals on the autism spectrum and their families.

Autism Society of Maine
72B Main St
Winthrop, ME 04364
Phone: 1-800-273-5200
Fax: 207-377-9434
E-mail: asm@asmonline.org
www.asmonline.org
Revised 5/14
How many people have autism?

- An estimated 1.7 million in the U.S.
- Boys > girls
- Rich or poor, any color or race, any city or country

What are people who have autism like?

- act differently
- have difficulty paying attention
- like to be alone
- may make noises, spin, prefer same toys, body rocking, flick fingers

Children who have autism may have difficulty communicating. You may hear a person who has autism repeat words or phrases that someone else has said. They often don’t ask for what they want or need, or talk about their feelings.

It’s not easy for children who have autism to make friends. They don’t know how to play and talk like other children do. Sometimes they get too close, talk too much, and laugh at things that other kids don’t think are funny. Even though children who have autism act and talk differently, it doesn’t mean they don’t want to have friends. Everybody is different. That’s what makes being friends with other kids more fun! There’s a lot you can learn from each other!

Can children with autism go to school?

Yes! There may be boys or girls who have autism at your school, or even in your classroom. Children who have autism and other disabilities have to go to school to learn math and reading just like you do. They may be in a classroom like yours all day long with a special helper, or they may only come into your class for part of the day. Some children spend all day in a class set up especially for them.

What is autism?

Autism is a developmental disability. This means that children are born with autism and will have it all of their lives. But they can learn and grow up to have jobs just like you!

Children who have autism develop skills differently than most kids. They may also have a different way of seeing, hearing, or feeling things. Sounds that you think are loud may actually be felt as pain, so a person with autism may cover their ears. Bright lights may hurt their eyes, so they turn the lights off, cover their eyes, or try to get away from the light. Things that you don’t think hurt may be painful to children who have autism, or they may not feel any pain at all when they fall down or hurt themselves.

Children who have autism don’t like change. They like to do the same things over and over, and have a hard time stopping what they are doing when their parents or teachers ask them to. They also like to do things the same way every time, so when something is different they may get very upset.

Some children who have autism cannot speak so they may learn to use sign language, a computer, or a book with pictures in it to tell people what they want or how they feel. Other children may speak but have difficulty saying what they want to say. And some children who have autism will talk just like you do.

Can autism be cured?

Nobody knows for sure what causes autism, so we can’t make it go away. Children who have autism can be helped to grow up like other kids. They may go to college, get a job and learn to make friends and enjoy family life. People with autism can get married and have children just like you. People with autism can grow up to be computer operators, artists, or work at a bank or in the shopping mall.

Sibshops provides opportunities for brothers and sisters of children with special health and developmental needs to obtain peer support and education within a recreational context.

Because Sibshops are designed (primarily) for school-age children, peer support is provided within a lively, recreational context that emphasizes a kids’-eye-view.

When and where are Sibshops?

Sibshops will occur across the State in various locations.

For more information:
http://www.asmonline.org/sibshops.asp
or call ASM 1-800-273-5200.