

# ***What We Wish Our Parents Knew***

***(By Frisco ISD Sibs)***

- 1. It's hard to be a sib!***
- 2. It's an adventure – ups and downs, happy endings, etc.***
- 3. Friends that are not nice to my sib with special needs are not true friends.***
- 4. We have a lot of sympathy for our sibs with special needs...even if we don't always show it.***
- 5. Sometimes they might bother us and annoy us just like any other sibling.***
- 6. It will be frustrating for us some days and we might need your help handling our frustration...we get tired of being the role model....let us just be kids with real emotions.***
- 7. Sometimes it is fun and we LOVE when it is fun, especially when they make us laugh!***
- 8. Treat us as equally as you can and give us and our sibs a chance to be independent.***
- 9. Sometimes we need to be left alone (without our sib with special needs).***
- 10. Being a sib is an art....give us time to perfect it.***
- 11. Don't assume what we want and what our sib with special needs wants...take the time to find out for sure.***
- 12. Always teach your child with special needs new things.***
- 13. Try to see the world through our eyes and the eyes of our siblings with special needs.***
- 14. It can be scary to have a sibling with special needs sometimes. We worry about our sib and we worry about YOU.***
- 15. We crave and need one-on-one time and attention from you.***
- 16. Focus on what our sibs with special needs CAN do...and celebrate those things...don't focus on what they can't do.***
- 17. We worry that the world might take advantage of our sibling with special needs.***
- 18. Be happy...we love to see you laugh and have fun!***