

# Super Reader Family Guide

## Actions to Develop Your Child's Sense of Belonging

### **Book Baskets**

Create personalized book baskets for each family member that reflect the passions and interests of each person, honoring every member as a cherished member of this family unit.

### **Heart Maps**

Have each family member draw a heart on a sheet of paper or on the computer and then fill it with words and images that represent where he or she has felt a deep sense of belonging.

### **Belonging Bulletin**

Create a bulletin board in your home for each family member to feature his or her passions.

### **Family Interviews**

Have your child interview family members about groups and communities to which they belong. They can ask questions like:

- Who is your best friend and why?
- What is your favorite thing to do?
- What was your favorite thing to do when you were my age?
- What group has felt important to you in your life?
- Where did you feel the greatest sense of belonging as a child?

### **Family Mural**

Create a mural together with images that represent each member of the family.

### **Family Favorites Book**

As a family, compile a list of your favorite things to do together. Talk about your favorite things using questions including:

- What is your favorite book to read aloud?
- What is your favorite song to dance to together?
- Decorate your book with images and mementos, and keep it in a place of honor!

## Routines to Develop Your Child's Sense of Belonging

- Create read aloud times that are rituals, and make sure every member gets a chance to select the reading.
- Talk about favorite and current reading material, from cereal boxes to novels.
- Choose books to read as a whole family.
- Create a listening corner for books online or on tape so multigenerations can listen together.
- Create book baskets or online files labeled with your child's name and add to those baskets/files whenever your child develops new interests (soccer, for example, and then add soccer books)
- Notice and celebrate unique qualities of your child as a reader. (Sarah loves animal books. Carlos reads books aloud to his little brother.)
- Share your child's reading growth with grandparents.
- Encourage siblings to read together.
- Have your child read to a pet or a stuffed animal!
- Host reading celebrations at home (tea and cake, etc.).
- Affirm and praise small steps in your child's reading progress.
- Post reading accomplishments on the refrigerator or wall for all to see.

# Super Reader Family Guide

## Actions to Develop Your Child's Sense of Curiosity

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### Wonder Walk

Bring a tablet or notebook and teach your child how to take notes on wonderings and observations.

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### Book Basket

Create a basket of books on topics your child is wondering about.

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### Neighborhood Walk

Go on a walk around the neighborhood as a family and stop and jot down what you observe.

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### Curiosity Window

Use tape and draw a box in a window; put markers and pens and index cards near the window so your child can look out the window and take notes on what he or she sees.

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### Curiosity Tour

Have each family member come up with one question he or she has about the world. Then go to the library together to find out answers.

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### 20 Questions

Ask a family member to stand in the center of a circle of people and pick someone to be, like an animal or famous athlete. Then he or she acts out the choice, while members of the group guesses what or who he or she is by asking yes and no questions. If the group members figure out what or who the family member is in 20 questions or fewer, they win the round.

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## Routines to Develop Your Child's Sense of Curiosity

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- Keep a wonderings chart of your child's questions; go online with your child and find the answers together.
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- Ask your child questions that spark meaningful conversation.
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- Ignite your child's curiosity by taking him or her to a museum, park, or another place that relates to a book he or she has read.
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- Have your child keep a journal of wonderings and create a story based on his or her questions.
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- Encourage your child to read informational books about new or unfamiliar topics.
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- Make observations about your surroundings when out and about with your child.
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- On slips of paper, write down new words your child discovers and keep them in a word jar. Every now and then, take them out and discuss their meanings.
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# Super Reader Family Guide

## Actions to Develop Your Child's Sense of Friendship

### Friendship Collage

Create a collage where you identify with your child admirable traits in his or her family members and friends.

### Friendship Memory Book

Invite your child to create a friendship book where he or she collects favorite memories with family members and friends.

### Family and Friends Dinner

Organize a dinner where each family member invites a friend.

### Friendship Chain

Cut pieces of paper into strips. On each strip, have a family member write down a way he or she is a good friend, and a way others are good friends to him or her. Link the strips by taping or stapling the ends together to make a Friendship Chain.

### Friendship Circle

At the end of the day (or as schedules allow), have family members and friends sit in a circle and share one way the person seated beside them has been a good friend.

## Routines to Develop Your Child's Sense of Friendship

- Read books around the theme of friendship with your child.
- Model reading behaviors for book clubs or with book buddies.
- Ask your child to share his or her favorite books.

# Super Reader Family Guide

## Actions to Develop Your Child's Sense of Kindness

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### **Kindness Webs**

Create webs based on the books you read. Give each character his or her own circle, and then draw lines to connect the characters who have been kind to each other. Write a description of each kind act along the lines.

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### **Kindness in Action**

Create a running list of kindness actions that you and your child can add to continually, and take action on one each week.

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### **Kindness Hall of Fame**

Look for examples of kindness in books you and your child read together and post them on a Kindness Hall of Fame.

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### **Messages of Kindness**

Invite family members to write kind, anonymous messages to each other.

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### **I Am Kind**

Have everyone choose one small way to demonstrate kindness to the rest of the family and commit to doing it!

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## Routines to Develop Your Child’s Sense of Kindness

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- Borrow books from friends, family, or the local library. Demonstrate the proper care of others’ property.
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- Let your child know when someone showed you kindness, and how it made you feel.
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- Help your child keep track of acts of kindness he or she receives.
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- Encourage your child to do an act of kindness each day, and then post a “kindness star” on the refrigerator with the child’s good deed written on it.
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- Talk about digital citizenship. What does it feel like when someone is being kind to you online? When have you expressed kindness online?
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- Find out if your local library offers programs that teach reading skills. If it does, volunteer as a family.
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- Encourage your child to practice good listening and speaking skills when sharing books and toys with others.
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- Develop a philanthropy project with your child inspired by a character in a book.
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- Have your child start a blog showing ways to be kind and promoting acts of kindness.
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# Super Reader Family Guide

## Actions to Develop Your Child's Sense of Confidence

**I'm Proud of Me** Have all of the family members write down three reasons why they are proud of themselves.

**Power Booster** Have all family members write down how they typically boost their confidence when they feel nervous or insecure. They do not have to share their Power Boosters, but they should use them in the future!

**Constant Confidence** Build your child's confidence as a reader and speaker by allowing time for reading and speaking every day. For example, set time every day for family members to talk about what they are reading.

**Confidence Notes** Have family members write anonymous notes of praise to one another.

**Confident Reflections** Invite family members to talk about what they are reading. They can describe the texts first, then offer their opinions on them.

## Routines to Develop Your Child's Sense of Confidence

- Give your child time to formulate opinions.
- Ask your child to share favorite books or stories during family gatherings.
- Encourage your child to speak up when participating in family conversations.



# Super Reader Family Guide

## Actions to Develop Your Child's Sense of Courage

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### **Courage Badges**

Create a badge for your child when he or she takes a new positive step as a reader.

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### **Courage Time Line**

Invite your child to read about different historical figures and create a time line of courageous behaviors he or she sees in those figures.

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### **News Hour**

As a family, watch the news and identify acts of courage you hear about. Discuss ways your child can be courageous in life.

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### **Reflections of Courage**

Have a family discussion about times each family member was courageous.

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### **Books of Courage**

Find examples of courage and life lessons in a book.

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## Routines to Develop Your Child's Sense of Courage

- Support your child when he or she stands up for a big idea and/or a friend.
- Point out examples of strong leadership in real life and in the books your child reads.
- Commend your child when taking risks with reading new material. Let him or her know that it requires tremendous courage to become a super reader.
- Share and discuss a story about a time in your life when you took a risk and needed to show courage.
- Give your child the opportunity to show courage by encouraging a new activity, such as a sport or dance.
- Celebrate moments of success and reflect on moments of failure as positive steps in growing. When discussing the meaning of success, focus more on courage and effort than on outcomes.
- Have your child act out his or her writing or someone else's writing that speaks to a sense of courage.

# Super Reader Family Guide

## Actions to Develop Your Child's Sense of Hope

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### Family Goals

As a family, set a goal for yourselves:

- Read a book together.
  - Do a family activity.
  - Have dinner together every night for a week.
  - Do something to help the community.
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### Embody Hope

Invite family members to choose a hopeful character from a book, and write about how they can learn from him or her.

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### I Have Hope

Develop a sense of hope after reading stories with characters who persevere through challenges. Talk about what hope means and why it's important to the lives of the characters.

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### Hope Wall

Invite family members to think of something that they are hopeful about. Then, have them choose an image to represent it. Add the images to a poster that you put up in the home.

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### Stories of Hope

Invite your family to come together and listen to a speech, poem, or other presentation that you feel embodies hope. Lead a discussion about how the speech made your family feel, and any lessons they can take from the speaker.

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## Routines to Develop Your Child's Sense of Hope

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- Make a wish for the community, country, or world and share it with someone who is in a place that is meaningful to your child.
  - Find stories in the world about hope and optimism (on social media, in the newspaper, in what you read together). Ask your child to make connections.
  - Have conversations on goal setting for a variety of purposes: playing sports, learning at school, socializing with friends, engaging in civic activities.
  - Talk to your child about his or her hopes, set one concrete goal, and help your child work toward the goal.
  - Create a family story book (in photos, pictures, and/or words) that focuses on hope-driven ideas.
  - Ask your child to point out conflicts and resolutions in the books he or she is reading. What is the life lesson? How does the character overcome his or her challenges?
  - Have your child express in writing his or her hopes for the community or for the world. Send his or her finished piece to local community organizations.
  - Ask your local librarian to create a list of books in which characters maintain hope in challenging situations.
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