

Reading role models can motivate kids



Lots of factors have an impact on your child's love of reading, but one of them may be closer than you realize. It's an older sibling! Kids who see their older brother

or sister reading for pleasure are more likely to seek out books themselves.

It's not just that book-loving older kids model good reading habits. They're also great resources when it comes to sharing books, suggesting new stories to explore and talking about literature.

To expose your child to reading role models:

- **Make reading a family affair.** Set aside a weekly reading time. Snuggle up on the couch, and read together. Include older siblings, cousins or friends.
- **Visit the library together.** After your younger child chooses his books, let him look in the "big kid"



section while his sibling finds a new book. No older sibling? Explore the preteen section with your child anyway. Let him see all the bigger kids browsing the shelves and reading in the aisles.

- **Involve the babysitter.** The next time your teenage sitter comes over, ask him to bring along a book. Seeing how important reading is to the sitter may inspire your child's interest in it, too!