



## ARE YOU EXPERIENCED? Get a mentor.

Most managers who are successful in business learn from a mentor. A mentor is someone who provides knowledge, support, or guidance to a younger or less experienced person. Jones finds a mentor in Radley's cousin who teaches him cool new bike tricks. The Secret Millionaires Club learns that choosing the right mentors is important for success in life.

### Help kids learn how mentors make a difference.

**Ask kids:** Who is someone in your life you might consider a mentor? How does that person help or support you? How can a mentor help you make good decisions? What are some other ways mentors help young people?

### **Discuss how a mentor has influenced or guided you.**

Mentors offer advice and share their life experiences on everything from doing well in school to making new friends. Ask your child: What are some qualities a good mentor has? Answers may include someone who is trustworthy or a good listener. Then discuss how a mentor impacted you personally or professionally. Did a teacher in school encourage you to pursue an interest? Did a mentor at work help you do better at your job? You can also talk to your child about some organizations that connect mentors with young people, such as Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, or Big Brothers Big Sisters.

### **Activities:**

1. Your child can learn firsthand what it's like to be a mentor. Brainstorm ways your child can help mentor a younger family member or friend. Your child might offer someone younger advice about school, be a reading partner, teach a new sport or skill, or offer guidance on pursuing a hobby such as coin collecting. Afterwards, talk to your child about the mentoring experience. Ask: How did it make you feel to help someone younger?
2. Play a game of mentoring "I Spy" for a week. Have your child keep an eye out for examples of a mentor lending a hand or being a role model to a younger person. Look for examples at school, at home, or even in movies or on TV programs. Be sure to note the qualities the mentor exhibited and how the mentor helped.

**Tip:** A mentor is someone your child knows and admires. Mentors can be family members, teachers, coaches, or religious or community leaders. Have your child write a letter to an adult who has helped him or her. Be sure the letter includes specific examples of what the mentor did to help your child or make a difference in your child's life.

