

Being a Literacy Role Model

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I recently saw an image with parents and child sitting on a couch, and a slogan that read: “children are made readers on the laps of their parents.” At the GLC, we for sure agree that reading in general and reading together as a family is **very** important to develop a love of reading and books

But I also think it’s important to recognize that there are other ways to be a literacy role model and it’s important to find what works for you. There are many different paths to develop good literacy habits. Here are a few examples:



Celebrate “I Don’t Know” Moments

- “I Don’t Know” moments represent an opportunity to learn something new
- Celebrate these moments for yourself and create a habit of learning by going together to find the answer
- Never be ashamed of not knowing the answer

Challenge Yourself

- Challenge yourself regularly to learn something new - want to try yoga? Learn a new language? Cook different kinds of food? Run a half marathon?
- Talk about the challenge with your family and how it’s going. Share your accomplishments and setbacks in family conversation
- Demonstrate how to break down big goals into smaller steps and talk about how that puts the overall challenge into perspective - does it feel like you’re making progress this way? Does it feel easier to achieve?
- Share the challenge! Get everyone in on it

Be Aware

- Pay attention to how much time each day is spent reading, writing, budgeting, moving, using computers, tablets, or smartphones, and so on
- These details show just how often you use different forms of literacy in your everyday life
- This will get you to appreciate how important it is to work on and improve your own skills - your work on yourself will serve as a role model for those around you