



Asset-Building Ideas for Brothers and Sisters

Having brothers and sisters can make life very interesting. Sometimes you probably fight or disagree. Other times you might be best friends. Brothers and sisters can also make life pretty good. Whether you love being together or drive each other crazy, you and your brothers and sisters can be important asset builders for each other. Here are some things to try:

- **Get to know your brothers and sisters better. Even though you may live together, you may not know each other well. Find out what you have in common and how you are different.**
- Don't tease your siblings. Even if it's just for fun, it might make them sad. Try to laugh *with* each other instead of *at* each other.
- **Talk about your roles in your family. Sometimes older children make decisions for younger children. Does that happen in your family? Why?**
- Think about each other's assets. Which assets are strong for you? Which need to be stronger? What are your brother's or sister's top 10 assets? What can you do to build assets for each other?
- **Commit to building assets in each other—and in your parents.**
- Know that all brothers and sisters sometimes have conflicts. Agree to solve conflicts peacefully. If you and your siblings need to learn how to do this, ask your parents or someone else to help you.
- **Thank your siblings when they do nice things for you.**
- The next time your brother or sister has a friend over, spend a few minutes with the two of them. Get to know your brothers' and sisters' friends.
- **If people compare you with your brothers or sisters, ask them to stop. Suggest that they point out your individual strengths instead.**
- Show your support for each other. For example, if one of your brothers or sisters plays a sport, go to a game once in a while.
- **Ask your brothers and sisters to teach you something. Maybe you have a younger sister who makes bracelets. Ask her to show you how to make one. Maybe your brother knows how to do cartwheels. Ask for some tips.**
- Do something nice for someone. You and your brothers and sisters could clean up your kitchen without being asked, or you could help a neighbor with a project.
- **Do something fun together, like tell jokes, read to each other, eat Popsicles, make a snow sculpture, play a board game, create a family play, build a tree house or fort, or go swimming.**