



## Family Resiliency Reading Guide **WHEN A KID LIKE ME FIGHTS CANCER**

BY CATHERINE STIER

After reading *When a Kid Like Me Fights Cancer* with your child, use this reading guide to continue the conversation around resiliency at home. In this guide, you will find a description of how this book relates to Resiliency Characteristics, literacy tips, and sample conversation starters for you and your child.

### SYNOPSIS

When Ben finds out he has cancer, he quickly learns the realities of facing this disease. He learns that cancer is something you fight, and that cancer is not anyone's fault – especially his. Through his fight against cancer, Ben realizes that many things change, but some things do not, and that everyone around him wants to help support his fight.

### LESSONS IN RESILIENCY

- ▶ Sometimes in life you face big challenges that you never thought you would. It is important to remember that your friends and family can support you through the entire process.
- ▶ Finding out bad news can be scary and cause worry. It can even make those around us not know what to say or do. Focusing on remaining positive can help you get through any challenge.
- ▶ Having support from family, friends and your community can help you get through difficult circumstances. We can all be **resilient!**

### RESILIENCY CHARACTERISTIC



#### **Resilience**

Coming back after challenges or setbacks.

### RESILIENCY CONVERSATION STARTERS:



Ask your child to share how he or she can support a friend who is facing a difficult challenge.



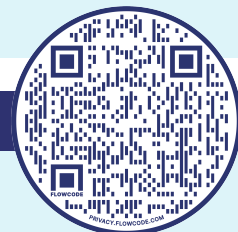
Change can be scary. Ask your child about a time when he or she was worried about something changing.



Discuss with your child the importance of accepting support from friends and family.

### LITERACY TIP

Phonemic awareness is the ability to hear and manipulate sounds in spoken words. It is a skill that should be developed before children connect sounds to letters when learning to read. You can help build your child's phonemic awareness skills by playing word games. Games like "I Spy" can be used to ask your child to find things that start with a certain sound. Other activities include singing songs and playing rhyming word games. These fun and engaging activities will help strengthen your child's phonemic awareness skills and set him or her on track to become a successful reader.



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