



Family Resiliency Reading Guide

WHEN THE BEAT WAS BORN:

DJ KOOL HERC AND THE CREATION OF HIP HOP

BY LABAN CARRICK HILL

After reading *When the Beat Was Born: DJ Kool Herc and the Creation of Hip Hop* 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 the Beat Was Born: DJ Kool Herc and the Creation of Hip Hop is the story of Clive Campbell and how he became a disc jockey (DJ). The story begins with Clive's childhood in Jamaica and then moves to his youth in the Bronx, New York, where he became known as Kool Herc. It conveys how he made **responsible decisions**, stayed out of trouble and chased his dreams of becoming a DJ. His love of music helped bring people together and inspired a new generation of artists and musicians.

LESSONS IN RESILIENCY

- ▶ As a child, Clive Campbell loved music, his neighborhood, his family and his Jamaican heritage. Moving to New York and leaving his childhood friends in Jamaica was not easy. Kool Herc dreamed of creating music. He recognized the challenges in his community and used his new, innovative music to bring the community together.
- ▶ DJ Kool Herc persevered through challenges to reach his goal of sharing his musical talents. DJ Kool Herc created a lasting legacy in hip-hop culture. He made a series of **responsible decisions** to not only create a new form of music, but also to encourage positive interactions between friends and neighbors.

RESILIENCY CHARACTERISTIC



Responsible Decision-Making

Thinking about all options and outcomes to make the best choice.

RESILIENCY CONVERSATION STARTERS:



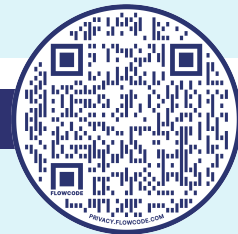
Physical movement and music help release energy in positive ways. DJ Kool Herc created an environment for people to come together, make **responsible decisions**, listen to music and dance. Have your child identify an activity that you can do together that involves movement, music and making good choices.



Clive saw poverty, gang violence and crime in his neighborhood. He showed **responsible decision-making** by fostering a sense of community in his neighborhood instead of taking part in violence and crime. Discuss with your child examples of **responsible decisions** that can be made to avoid bad situations.

LITERACY TIP

Building background knowledge is essential for your child to become a successful reader. You can support building background knowledge by reading a variety of texts on the same topic. Visiting websites, watching videos and going to the local library can also help build your child's background knowledge on a certain topic. The more your child knows about a topic, the easier it becomes to understand the texts he or she is reading.



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