

Thank you for your dedication to our Mentoring Program. We know that sometimes it can be hard to know what to expect and to connect with your Mentee. Below are some tips to help you connect with the child you are mentoring:

- Set a consistent day of the week that you will meet so that they can look forward to that day every week.
- Create a list of fun things that you would like to do together. Try to check one thing off that list after every time you meet.
- Don't hold back from sharing experiences from your own life that have helped shape you, especially when they apply to your Mentee.
- Think about the adults that had the most positive impact on your life and consider how their example could help you connect with your Mentee.
- Don't be afraid to correct your Mentee or to provide structure in your relationship. Most children are looking for structure and will rise to the standard that you set.
- Get in the habit of noticing when they do something well. Children need encouragement and positive reinforcement to help them feel secure.
- Relax and have fun. As much as your Mentee may try to act like an adult, they are still children and need to know that it's okay to be silly.