Choose to Read Ohio presents

Big Brothers Don't Take Naps!
by Louise Borden (author)
and Emma Dodd (illustrator)

Nicholas looks up to his big brother, James. James does all kinds of things that only older brothers can do—like write his name, read books, and cross the street. But there’s one thing James doesn’t do: take a nap. Because big brothers don’t take naps. But when the brothers share a special secret, it looks like the day Nicholas doesn’t have to take a nap may be approaching soon!

Talking: After reading the story, talk about what it means to be a big brother/ sister or little brother/ sister. Nick’s big brother teaches him many things. Ask your child to tell you some of the activities that Nick and his big brother do together.

Singing: In this story, James gets to ride a big yellow school bus to school each day. Sing “The Wheels on the Bus” together. Add a verse to say “Big Brothers/ Sisters on the bus say ‘I love you,’ all through the town!”

Reading: Look at the cover of the book together. Point out the title, author and illustrator. Talk about what these concepts are and mean. In the story, Nick’s big brother lets him be the “page turner.” Let your child be the “page turner” too. While reading the story, be sure to occasionally direct your child’s eyes to the text by running your finger along underneath the words or asking, “Where are the words on this page?”

Writing: In the story, Nick’s big brother teaches him how to write his name. Help your child practice writing his / her name. Talk about the first letter in your child’s name. See if your child can find objects around the room that begin with that letter.

Playing: Pretend to be rocket ships, like Nicholas and James do. Count down from ten and BLAST OFF! Have an assortment of baby dolls available. Let your child pretend to be a big brother/sister.


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