



## What "The Lion King" Can Teach You about Family and Friendship

The Lion King was one of the most successful movies in the Disney franchise. Simba overcomes challenges with the help of his family and friends. Just like real life, the story is full of ups and downs. Simba is often in danger, but he doesn't have to face it alone. He learns the meaning of loyalty and loss and winds up saving his homeland and taking back his throne.









Consider these important lessons the Lion King teaches about friendship:

Be flexible. Lions, warthogs, and meerkats may sound like unlikely allies, but it worked out for Simba. If you're struggling to make new friends, especially as you grow older, consider reaching beyond your usual circle.

Make introductions. Encourage your friends to get to know each other. You'll discover more about each other and reinforce your connections.

Listen to feedback. Even when things looked bleak, Simba's friends believed in him. Their encouragement helped to give him the courage and confidence he needed to fulfill his destiny.

Learn to relax. On a lighter note, Timon and Pumbaa also taught Simba about how to cope with pressure. Remember their famous words about putting your past behind you. It might also help to sing "hakuna matata," or "no worries."

Focus on quality. When you think about it, Simba had only a few close friends, but they provided a lot of support. A handful of strong and healthy relationships will enrich your life more than a bunch of social media followers you may barely know.

Plan ahead. Real friendships are based on trust and positive interactions that develop gradually. Invest time and energy into your relationships. The payoff will be worth it.







## Lion King Lessons about Connecting with Your Family

The movie reminds us about the circle of life. It begins and ends with proud parents introducing the next generation. Cultivating family ties can help you feel rooted.

Keep these ideas in mind:

Set boundaries. Happy families treat each other with respect. Maybe Scar could have been a better brother to Mufasa if they grew up differently with reasonable expectations and consistent consequences.

Resolve conflicts. Then again, disagreements are natural. What matters is being quick to forgive and open to finding mutually beneficial solutions.

Show appreciation. It also helps to let your family know how much you love them instead of taking each other for granted. Express your affection and gratitude.

Create traditions. Make daily life and special occasions more festive. Family rituals generate lifelong memories and a sense of belonging. Enjoy weekly movie nights and annual Thanksgiving dinners.

Share responsibilities. Routine tasks have a big impact too. Give each family member an opportunity to contribute by dividing chores fairly.







## Keep in touch.

If there was a silver lining in the pandemic, it may have been the increase in time parents and children spent together. As you go back to work and school, keep that trend going with family dinners, bedtime stories, and weekend outings.

Cope with grief. The Lion King also had a powerful message about loss that resonates with recent events. Maybe you and your children will find comfort and strength in your ability to adapt to change.

Healthy relationships are essential for your overall health and wellbeing. They also make life more enjoyable and rewarding. Cherishing your family and friends can make you a roaring success, just like Simba.



