## BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF THE LOWCOUNTRY MATCH SUCCESS STORY

"Ashanti & Claire"

Delissa's decision to enroll her daughter, Ashanti, in the Big Brother Big Sisters program was driven by a desire for her daughter to have more than just a confidante. She sought a positive influence, a guiding light, and a friend. When Ashanti was matched with Big Sister Claire, they discovered a shared love for drawing, dancing, and trying out new sports. Since being matched, Delissa has witnessed a remarkable transformation in Ashanti's confidence, a testament to the power of mentorship.



For Claire, the decision to become a Big Sister was about giving back and paying forward the mentorship she once received. The joy she derives from witnessing Ashanti's significant personal growth over the past year is immeasurable. She takes pride in Ashanti's increasing self-assurance and clarity and encourages her to celebrate her true self. This commitment to Ashanti's development is a testament to Claire's dedication as a mentor.

Claire's mission remains steadfast: to provide unwavering support, acceptance, and love, ensuring Ashanti feels empowered to embrace her authentic self. Their journey together has been filled with laughter and learning, from sharing new culinary adventures to their homemade sushi escapade. One of their favorite memories from the match is when they went to Top Golf, and it started to rain. "It was a lot of fun. It was pouring rain, and we had to run out to the car with no shoes on so they wouldn't get wet," shared, Ashanti.

Ashanti's teacher has also noticed her growth and described her as someone with excellent leadership skills! Delissa describes her daughter as someone who "likes to joke around and dance; she's (even) done TikTok (dances) with Claire before." As she grows in confidence, Ashanti continues to come into her own. "She loves to laugh, has a good heart, and is always trying to have fun," shares Delissa.

Claire and Ashanti's friendship continues to positively influence both of their lives, and we're excited to see what adventures they have in store this year!

