Maggie's Civics Corner

Lesson 25 – Be A Helper

***Today's Quote*:** *"When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.'"*
-Mr. Rogers

Today's lesson is about Helpers*: Part of being a good citizen – and dog – is helping people who need it! Our country looks to all kinds of helpers: firefighters, healthcare volunteers, teachers and more. Think of the last time someone helped you, maybe with homework or a chore. People help you all the time, and I bet you help them too. A couple states, like Rhode Island and Vermont, even require you by law to help out people if you notice them in need. Why is it important to help others?*

Sticky Situation: Imagine you go to the park and notice someone crying on a bench. You don't know why they are crying, but you see that they are alone at the park. You have four options: (1) you can choose to walk by without saying anything; (2) play with your friends instead; (3) get help from an adult; or (4) try to cheer them up yourself. Which would you choose?

It is important to remember that helping others is great, but make sure you're always being safe. Never approach a stranger unless you have a trusted adult with you.

Activity: Think of a way you can help someone today. Maybe you have a sibling who needs help with homework, or maybe you can help cook dinner. Look for someone in your home who needs help with something and offer to be a helper. Did helping someone make you feel happy? Proud? Write down how it makes you feel to help a friend.

Civic Resources: For more information on why and how kids can help out in the community, visit: https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/volunteer.html.

Bonus Craft: Saying thank you to helpers is important. I'm going to make a thank-you note for my Mom because she helped me today by filling my dogfood bowl. I'll draw a picture of us playing at the park! Pick someone who has helped you and write a thank-you note for them with a picture.