



Ways to Help the World Go Round

Sincerely, Emerson by Emerson Weber

We are all aware that there are lots of ways to help the world go around. One thing we might not be as aware of is that even the youngest citizen among us can help the world go around. Think about Sophie Cruz. At five-years-old, Sophie gave Pope Francis a letter when he came to the United States asking him to advocate for undocumented immigrants in the U.S. like her parents. In her letter, she shared “I have a right to live with my parents. I have a right to be happy...immigrants just like my dad feed this country. They deserve to live with dignity”.

There are many ways our youngest citizens can make a difference. In *Sincerely Emerson*, 11-year-old Emerson Weber kept thinking about all the people who have helped make her and her family’s world go around in this challenging time. Let’s make a list together of who we think has helped make our world go around throughout 2020 and beyond:

For example, let’s think about the following:

- Have our grocery store shelves been kept filled with the food and supplies we need to thrive?
- Has our trash been collected regularly throughout the pandemic?
- Do we still get our mail delivered?
- If we need to go somewhere, is there still a train or bus to take us?

In the book, *Sincerely Emerson*, we see how one act of kindness...a letter to say “thank you”, has made not only Emerson’s mailman but mailmen and women all over the country feel valued for the hard work they do. Let’s listen to this true story, think about the questions below, and then write our letters to the President and Vice President or to any one who you think has *helped the world go round*.

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Questions to think about:

1. Emerson loved writing letters. What do you love to do that you could share with *someone who has helped make your world go round*?
2. Besides saying thank you to that person/people, what would you like them to know about you?
3. How did Doug make everything Emerson wanted to do possible?
4. Why do you think mail carriers from all over the country had written back to Emerson?
5. Emerson thought about how the mail carriers keep everybody connected. Who else in our world helps to keep people connected?
6. This class thought about writing letters to the President and Vice President. Why do you want to write to the President and Vice President? What would you tell them about yourself? What might you say to make them feel valued? What would you ask them about?

Let's write.....