Maggie says ...

We live in a community. Sometimes, somebody will leave our community and go join another community, or somebody else will leave their community and join our community. That’s immigration!

Today’s lesson is about IMMIGRATION. I love our community, and I am really excited when somebody new joins us, too. When we were at the dog park the other day I played with a new dog I had never met before. She and her family are new to our community – they moved from a country halfway around the world to here! They’re learning English and about how we live here, and I am learning from them about how they lived in their old community.

Sticky Situation: Imagine that a new student joins your class. This student moved from another country far away. The new student is trying to learn English; trying to fit in at school; and trying to find their place in your community. What could you do to help make this new student’s transition to school in the U.S. a little bit easier? Moving to a new place can be hard and moving to a new place in a different country can be even harder. If you had just moved to a new place, what kinds of things do you think would be important to learn? What do you think communities can do to help welcome new people to the community?

Activity: The United States is a country of immigrants. Ask your parents about when your family came to this country. Then ask them about when they moved to the community that you live in today. Ask your friends about their families’ immigration stories. How are your stories similar? How are they different?

Civics Resources: To learn more about immigration, visit:

Learning for Justice – Exploring Young Immigrant Stories
Kids Discover – Unit: Immigration