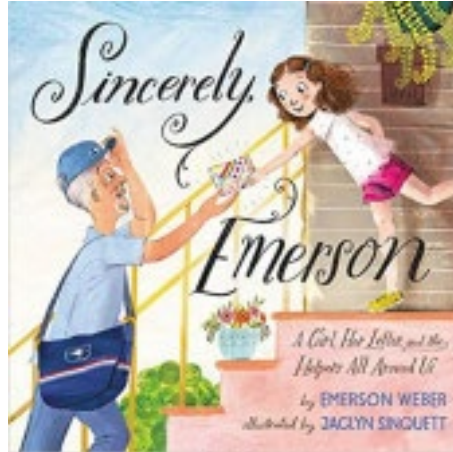


Sincerely, Emerson



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Topics: Making Positive Change, What it means to be an American citizen, Rights and responsibilities

Genres: Picture books, Community stories

There are lots of ways to help the world go around. Even the youngest citizen among us can help. Think about Sophie Cruz. At five-years-old, Sophie gave Pope Francis a letter asking him to advocate for undocumented immigrants in the U.S. like her parents. She said, “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 the book, *Sincerely Emerson*, we see how one act of kindness, a letter to say “thank you”, made postal workers all over the country feel valued for the hard work they do.

Sincerely, Emerson

Before the Read Aloud:

Let's make a list together of who we think makes our world go around. For example, how many people do you think it takes to bring food from a farm to the grocery store? How about sending a letter? To operate the bus or a train?

During the Read Aloud:

1. Emerson loved writing letters. What is something you love 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 wrote back to Emerson?
5. Emerson thought about how the mail carriers keep everybody connected. Who else in our world helps 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 would you ask them about?

Take Action Project:

Think about the story and what Emerson said in her letter. Then write a letter to anyone who you think has helped the world go round.

