Maggie’s Civics Corner

Lesson #35 - Immigration

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. Just the other day we were at the dog park and I met 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, and how to fit in at your school and in your community. What could you do to help make the new student get used to life in America? 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: Ask your parents about when your family came to America. Or ask about when they moved to the community that you live in today. Maybe your family came to America recently. Maybe the first person in your family came to America years ago. Try asking your friends about their families and when they came to America too, and learn about how America is made up of all sorts of immigrants.

Civics Resources: To learn more about immigration, check out these resources:
https://www.tolerance.org/classroom-resources/tolerance-lessons/exploring-young-immigrant-stories
https://online.kidsdiscover.com/unit/immigration