

Emmanuel's Dream

A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

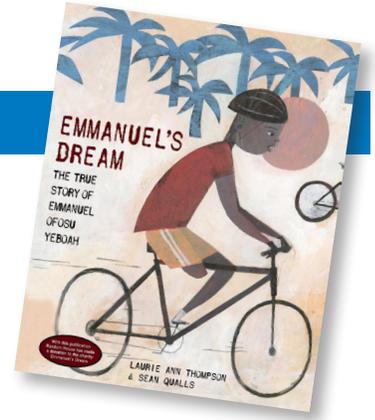
Themes: Prejudice, Perseverance, Acceptance, Charity, Cycling

Book Brief: Though born with a physical disability, Emmanuel quickly proves that he is just as capable as everyone else. This book tells the amazing story of Emmanuel and the 400 miles he travels on his bike in order to help other people with disabilities.

Author: Laurie Ann Thompson

Illustrator: Sean Qualls

Content Connections: Science, Math, Social Studies



TIME TO READ!



BEFORE WE READ, LET'S LOOK AT...

The Cover: Have students make predictions about the book based on the title and cover illustration. What do they notice about the boy on the cover? What can they tell about the story's setting?

The Pictures: Flip briefly through the pictures. Ask students to focus on the characters and the setting.

Prior Knowledge: Locate Ghana on a map or globe. What do students know about Ghana or West Africa?

What can they tell about the climate or people based on the pictures in the book? Make a chart on the board showing what students already know or assume about Ghana. After reading, add a section to the chart showing what students learned about Ghana from the book.

Vocabulary: disability, crutches, scolded, persuaded, odum, plantain

Purpose for Reading:

As we read, think about the different challenges Emmanuel faces and how he overcomes each one.



WHILE WE READ

MONITORING COMPREHENSION

- ◆ Why do people think Emmanuel will be useless?
- ◆ How do the students treat Emmanuel at first?
- ◆ How does he get the students to accept him?

- ◆ Why does he go to Accra?
- ◆ Why doesn't Emmanuel want to beg?
- ◆ Why does Emmanuel want to bike across Ghana?
- ◆ How do people react to his journey?

LET'S THINK ABOUT

Our Purpose: What were the main challenges Emmanuel faced in the book? How did he handle each problem? Why did people treat Emmanuel so unfairly? What would you have done if you had been in his place?

Extending Our Thinking: Have people ever judged you or been mean to you just because you're different than they are? How did that make you feel? How did you react? With a partner, brainstorm things you could have said or done to help them realize they were treating you unfairly. Have *you* ever been mean to someone different than you? Why do you think you acted that way? If you met that person again today, what would you do differently? Discuss with a partner.

NOTE TO EDUCATORS

- ◆ Extension Activities for Educators also available.
- ◆ Vocabulary Scaffolding Sheet also available.



Reading Is Fundamental