

Say Something!

by Peter H. Reynolds



Before Reading: Get Ready

Review the book synopsis (on the back cover) with the student to confirm interest in reading the book. Share the title and author/illustrator. Talk about the cover.

Activate comprehension and set a purpose for reading. In *Say Something!* children encounter situations that encourage them to speak up for other people, themselves, and their beliefs in many ways. Let's read to see what situations sound familiar, which ones may be new to you, and how you might respond.

Introduce important vocabulary and ask your student to listen for these words during reading.

- **injustice:** Justice means something is fair. Injustice means something is not fair
- **peaceful:** Peace can mean calm, and living without being scared or worried. *Peaceful* means feeling full of peace (calm, not worried or scared).

During Reading: Read Together

Sit side-by-side to share the book. Follow the conversation prompts and invite your student to ask questions or comments connected to the text to ensure their comprehension. Encourage your student to read the book with you!

- **After reading p. 6:** Has your student even seen a buddy bench on a playground? It's a place where someone who would like to play with a friend can sit, and others know to go invite them to play. If they have seen a buddy bench before, would they consider checking on a child sitting alone?
- **After reading p. 12:** How has your student learning to help someone who is being bullied? Is there a teacher or another trusted adult who will help?
- **After reading p. 16:** What brilliant ideas has your student recently had? Did they say something?

- **After reading p. 20:** It's not always easy to tell someone that they hurt your feelings. Has your student spoken up for themselves when they were angry? Who did they talk to? How did it go?
- **After finishing the book:** Let's talk about the different ways that we can speak up and say something.
 - Answers could include to speak up for others who need help, to stand up for yourself, to be kind and peaceful.

NOTE: This book does not have page numbers. These conversation prompts will be marked in the book for your use.

After Reading: Discuss and Extend

After reading, briefly discuss the text and revisit vocabulary words to ensure your student understands the text. Extend the conversation with writing to give your student multiple opportunities to show understanding.

- **I hope you enjoyed our book today and will read other books by Peter H. Reynolds!**
- **Let's talk, draw, and write to respond to this book.** (Choose a prompt for student response and copy the selected frame into your student's notebook.)
 - On page 2 the author wants to know what you will say from your heart. What do you want to share with the world? (Draw and discuss)
 - I can speak up for myself when I _____.
 - Even though it may be hard to say something, I can help others by_____.
 - I think the author of this book wanted to teach us that _____.
 - On page 8 the child is painting to say something. What would you paint? (Draw, paint, and discuss)
 - On page 14 the child is writing a poem to describe something beautiful. What poem would you write? (Write and discuss)
 - Throughout the book, the author writes in speech bubbles. On page 30 the author reminds us that everyone has something to say. What do you want the world to hear? Draw a speech bubble and then write in it.