

Emmanuel's Dream

A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

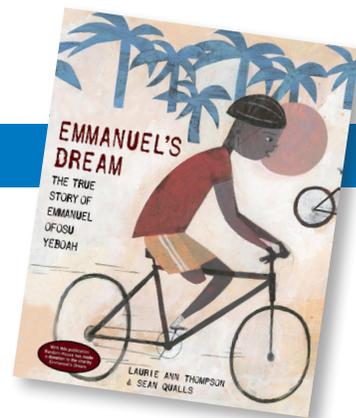
Themes: Prejudice, Perseverance, Acceptance, Charity, Cycling

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



TIME TO READ!



Before reading, build

background: What do you know about Ghana? Use the pictures in the book to help you guess what life might be like there. Look up Ghana on a map or online.

While reading, make

connections: Has anyone ever judged you or been mean to you because you're different than they are?

How did you feel? What did you do? How does Emmanuel react when people treat him unfairly?

After reading, ask questions:

- ◆ How did Emmanuel overcome the prejudice and unfair treatment he faced?
- ◆ How did he help other people with disabilities around the world?
- ◆ What do you think it would be like to ride a bike 400 miles? Do you think you could do it?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

PERFECT PLANTAINS

Ingredients: 2 plantains; vegetable oil; salt; water, cayenne pepper, ginger (optional)

Fried plantains are a popular treat in many places, including Ghana. Heat 1 inch of oil in a deep pan over medium-high heat. (Be very careful with hot oil—have an adult handle this!) Peel plantains and cut into bite-sized cubes. Fry in small batches until golden brown on each side. Remove from oil. Season with salt and enjoy! For a Ghanaian flavor, toss plantains in a mix of 2 T. water, 1 t. salt, 1 t. cayenne, and 1/2 t. ginger before frying.

SHIRTING THE ISSUE

Materials: paper, markers or crayon, plain t-shirt and fabric markers (optional)

Emmanuel wears a special shirt while riding to raise awareness for his cause. Are any issues or causes important to you? On a sheet of paper, design a t-shirt that shares a message about something important to you. If you have a plain t-shirt and fabric markers, copy your design onto a shirt and wear it to spread the word about your cause!

DEAR DIARY

Materials: paper, pencil or markers

Emmanuel spent 10 days biking almost 400 miles! Can you imagine what it was like? Pretend you're Emmanuel. Write a travel journal or draw a comic to show what happens on your trip. How long do you bike each day? What do you eat? Where do you sleep? Do you think about giving up? Are you scared of wild animals? Who do you meet along the way?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

My Dog Is the Best (2015),
Be a Changemaker: How to Start Something That Matters (2014).



Reading Is Fundamental