FOR PARENTS, TEACHERS & READING GROUPS

Talk About It

Questions to share before and after reading ***Samantha and the Small Beginning***.

Before reading

1. Look at the cover. How do you think Samantha is feeling? What clues tell you?
2. What do you think might happen to the turtle?

After reading

1. Why do you think Samantha keeps her hood up and her arms crossed?
2. Samantha says, “I’m not good at stuff.” Have you ever felt that way? What helped?
3. The man on the phone and the lady with the poodle didn’t see the turtle. Why do you think Samantha noticed?
4. Samantha’s feet froze on the curb. What helped her take that first step?
5. Russel says, “Big things start small.” What do you think he means?
6. How did Samantha feel when the sign was ruined and the big kids laughed? What would you say to her?
7. Samantha discovers she’s good at noticing and good at trying. What are you good at?
8. At the end, Samantha sits beside a new kid. Why do you think she did that? Who could you sit beside?

Try this: Choose one small, brave step to take this week, like saying hi to someone new, trying something hard or helping without being asked. Track it on the My Small Steps chart.

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