



KAMALA AND MAYA'S BIG IDEA

MEENA HARRIS

SUMMARY

Kamala and Maya look out their window at the building's courtyard and see a big, empty space that no one uses. They wish they could find a way to turn the space into one that's good for everyone. Can they find a way to make a playground with a slide, swings, a sandbox, and all the other things they want to play with? Will the adults do it for them?

Questions:

1. Do you think Kamala and Maya want a playground just for themselves? Or do they want it for all the kids and people in the building?
2. Before you do something that affects other people, should you ask their permission? How would someone feel if someone did something asking them first? How would you feel if someone did it to you? Would it feel like that person cared about you?
3. How do you think the girls felt when the landlord didn't even think about it?
4. How do you think the other kids felt when Kamala and Maya invited them to be a part of the idea and the project? When we have more voices speaking up for something, is it more likely that people will listen?
5. Will it be easy for the kids to build a playground by themselves? Do you think that they should give up? Do you think they will give up?
6. Did anyone want to do everything for them? How do you think they felt when everyone said no? How do you think they felt when Mr. Green said maybe? How do you think they felt when he brought all the stuff and helped them make a sandbox?
7. How did the adults feel when they saw the big effect of one little thing? Even if you can't do everything for someone, is it easy to do something to help?
8. There didn't used to be anything in the courtyard, and maybe people didn't even spend much time together. How do you think everyone in the building felt when they saw the potluck invitation?
9. Have you ever been to a potluck? How would it feel to bring food that everyone likes? How would it feel if no one ate your food? How would you feel if someone didn't bring anything, no even music or decorations, but ate a lot of food? So if you are thinking about everyone at the party, what's the best thing to bring?
10. How do you think they felt when they got the slide they'd worked so hard for? If you'd helped out, how would you feel when the playground was finished?

