Being You - by Megan Madison

- pg 7 "When a baby is born, grown-ups might say"it's a girl" if their body has a vagina, or "it's a boy" if their body has a penis. Sometimes grown-ups aren't sure, but they choose the words "girl" or "boy" anyway.
- pg 10 "Some people are girls. Some people are boys. Some people are neither. Some people are both."
- pg. 11 "It's okay to wonder: Am I a girl? Am I a boy? Am I both? Am I neither?
- pg. 12 "Maybe you already know! There's no right or wrong answer. And it's okay if your answer changes. What do you wonder about yourself? What do you know? "
- pg. 13 "What ever your feelings are, they are real and important. You are the expert in being YOU. Bubbles by characters: I'm a girl! Today I feel like a Boy! I'm a girl Too!"
- pg. 14 more bubbles on characters saying: "I'm a Woman! I'm an In-Betweener! I'm Trans!"
- pg 16 "My pronouns are THEY AND THEM. Please just use my Name. What are your pronouns?"
- pg 20 "Has someone ever picked toys or clothes for you, but they didn't make you feel happy or at home in your body?"
- pg. 23 "Thankfully, there are also many brave grownups and kids who say, "No! That's not true and that's not fair!" In bubbles: "Black Trans Lives Matter No One is FREE when others are OPPRESSED Equal Pay
- pg. 25 "We can practice being feminists by noticing the unfair things around us." Picture of a Boy going into a Boy labeled bathroom.
- pg 16 "and by working together to make things more fair." Picture of a girl by a Girl-labeled bathroom.
- pg 27: "The things we say and do matter, and can make the world better for everybody."
- pg 28 "What unfair things do you notice? What can you say or do about them?"

Closing page of the book - For Further Discussion....

GENDER BINARY In many Western cultures, there is a pervasive belief that there are only two genders and that these two genders should correspond neatly with a whole host of expectations about what girls and boys are supposed to do, like, and be. This binary system is harmful to everyone—to those who do not fit into the rigid boxes of the binary, certainly, but also to people who feel comfortable identifying as a girl or a boy, but would like more flexibility in how they express their gender. Starting to use more gender-neutral language at home or in the classroom is one way to stop perpetuating the gender binary. Instead of "boys and girls," you can call a group of children "friends" or "everybody." GENDER STEREOTYPES Our society is full of gender stereotypes, and children absorb them at a young age. Girls should wear pink, and boys should like trucks, for example. One of the things we can do to support gender justice is to help identify these stereotypes when we encounter them in books, media, and familiar routines. We can notice alongside children, naming these stereotypes as inaccurate and unfair. Try it the next time you visit a toy store! GENDER PRONOUNS Sharing our gender pronouns is one way to avoid relying on guesses about one another's genders. It's a simple step we can take to respect how everyone in our community wants us to talk about them. If you're new to this, it can feel awkward at first, but don't worry, it gets much easier with a little practice. Kids tend to pick it up pretty quickly, so we grown-ups can follow their lead.

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Covered in the Jackson Post article Column 4 - about half way down.