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# Emeka's Gift

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~~Not a Choice:~~

off

Media type:

Book

BfK Rating:

4

Now out in paperback, **Emeka's Gift** is a much praised counting book in the form of a delightful story of a child's efforts to take his grandmother a present. It is a book which children up to about eight would enjoy both in and out of school. Like Onyefulu's other picture books (eg **A is for Africa**), **Emeka's Gift** provides a window into a particular culture, in this case that of the Igala tribe in rural Nigeria. Grandmothers are important in African families, often taking a central role in caring for the children. Therefore we are not surprised at the nature of the gift Emeka's grandmother values most. The presentation of the book is impeccable - the numbers are bold and clear and the annotations to the vivid, sunny photographs are lively and informative. Young readers learn about the games, cooking utensils, necklaces, musical instruments and food of this part of Africa. But it is the people - the young women cheerfully carrying their goods to market, the young man carving pestles and mortars for grinding up food and the children at the grandmother's house waiting for Emeka to join their games - who shine out most brightly from the pages. This life enhancing book would make a lovely gift or an attractive and useful addition to the Key Stage 1 collection

Running Order:

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