

# The BIG Brave Broadcast Synopsis

By Rachel Baker



As a teacher, I want to create more mirrors rather than windows for students of color. In elementary education, we typically show students lots of pictures and tell lots of stories. Unfortunately, these pictures and stories feel more like windows, looking **outward** from students' lives and the communities live in. Instead, I want students to look **inward**, and be empowered by a history that not only includes, but is built by, people who reflect their families and friends. The BIG Brave Broadcast allows students to **SEE THEMSELVES** as descendants of scientists, leaders and innovators who created positive change in the world.

Once students can see themselves as powerful, those multicultural narratives become spring-boards for teaching SEL, social-emotional skills, in an engaging way. By connecting emotions to different kinds of weather, students explore their own feelings and learn new words to express their emotions. These feeling words are also presented in Spanish – positioning bilingual students as having a super power to share with friends, instead of a difference to divide them.

Finally, students learn social skills the same way they learn to play sports or video games: step-by-step, using strategies proactively to solve problems. This empowers students to think of themselves as the drivers, not passengers, of their behaviors and relationships. Driving the car is a lot more fun! When you give students the opportunity to practice self-regulation and interpersonal problem solving skills in concrete terms, they feel confident navigating the human-side of learning.

In 20 minutes, first thing in the morning, I want students to see, to learn from and to be inspired by their own power. I want to make sure that all students have a chance to think big and be brave – and that requires an honest commitment to making more mirrors rather than windows.

## The Cast of Characters:

### Correspondent Chase



#### Played by Sydelle Chase-Rosario

Correspondent Chase is the lead anchor and host of the Big Brave Broadcast. She guides you through each segment of the news reminding you to “chase your dreams and change the world.” To contact (717) 686-2059 or [star69325@gmail.com](mailto:star69325@gmail.com)

### The Professor



#### Played by Lutfi Sariahmed

The Professor provides BIG knowledge to tiny people! He introduces you to powerful people in his segment “Today’s Top Story” and reminds you “I can learn Big Brave Things!” To contact (908) 692-2256 or [lutfi.sariahmed@gmail.com](mailto:lutfi.sariahmed@gmail.com)

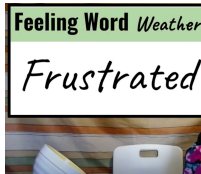
### Detective Ortiz



#### Played by Ja’Quan Ortiz

Detective Ortiz is a teen detective on the hunt for answers! He shows you how to ask powerful questions (5W’s) to find out what you want to know and discover the secret feelings word! To contact Ja’Quan (856) 383-7584, Karen Merricks (Mom) (267) 259-8874 or [karenmerricks19@gmail.com](mailto:karenmerricks19@gmail.com)

### Grandmother Nature



#### Played by Rachel Baker

Grandmother Nature is that loud, in your face relative that we can all relate to. She tells it like it is and explains what the Feeling Word means and what type of “weather” it feels like to your brain! To contact (732) 713-5896 or [Rachel.kendall.baker@gmail.com](mailto:Rachel.kendall.baker@gmail.com)

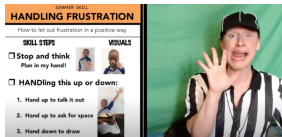
### La Valiente Bilingue



#### Played by Sandra Dominguez

La Valiente Bilingue allows students to see being bilingual a superpower to share with friends instead of a difference to divide them! To contact (609) 880-4437 or [Sandra.dominguez@masterycharter.org](mailto:Sandra.dominguez@masterycharter.org)

### Coach Fran



#### Played by Rachel Baker

Coach Fran is a fan of havin’ a plan! Her sport is the game of life and she breaks down skills and strategies that you can use to problem solve, control your anger and communicate with others!

For more episodes, please visit the Empower SEL YouTube channel here:

[www.youtube.com/c/EmpowerSEL](https://www.youtube.com/c/EmpowerSEL)

For more on SEL (Social-Emotional Learning) visit our website at:

[www.empowersel.org](http://www.empowersel.org)