

An illustration of a young girl with brown hair in a ponytail, wearing an orange shirt and brown pants, carrying a green folder. She is talking to a young boy with red hair and glasses, wearing a blue polo shirt and brown pants, carrying an orange folder. Three speech bubbles are positioned above them: one on the left with the word 'SAY' in orange, a large central one with 'SOMETHING' in green, and one on the right with 'NICE' in blue. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene with green grass and trees.

SAY

SOMETHING

NICE

BY SHARON A. SOFFE

“You have nice handwriting,”  
The teacher said this morning.  
I could feel myself sit taller  
Without a bit of warning.

“You make my job much easier  
When you follow every rule.”  
I smiled at this nice compliment  
From the principal of my school.

“I wish that I could sing like you,”  
Whispered someone standing near.  
I started feeling confident  
And forgot about my fear.

We played a game of basketball.  
Coach said, “You’re doing better.”  
Knowing that made me feel good;  
Now I’m a real go-getter.

I felt so happy after school,  
With my head and shoulders high.  
I smiled and waved at everyone  
Who happened to pass by.