

YP Curriculum

Character Development

First, give the students the character development worksheet below. This can be given as "try this at home." You can have the kids work on a character that they are already portraying in one of their in-class skits, or give them a specific instruction such as choose a character that:

You are reading about in a book right now

Is your favorite fairytale character

Is inspired by an object

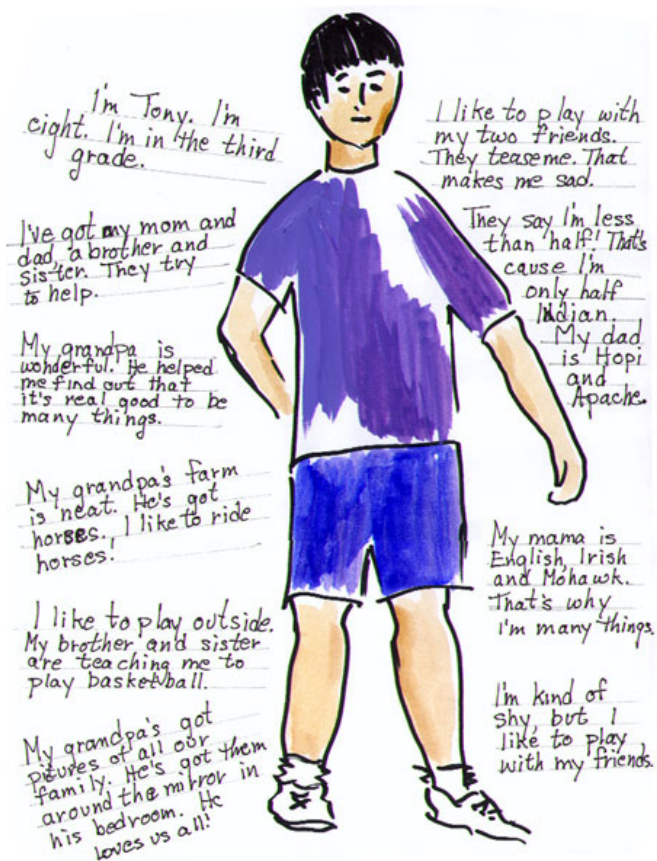
Is inspired by a color

Is inspired by an animal

Etc.

Have the kids fill out the character worksheet (below) first, then give them each a blank character template. They can color in their character and copy the answers to the questions onto their character picture (examples below.)

This activity can be done in class, or given as "try this at home."



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Character Worksheet

Let's start by looking very carefully at a character in a story that you just read or are reading. Think about all the things you know about your character. If you don't know the answer to some of the questions, use your imagination to make up answers. This is quite all right if you are being a playwright or actor! They use their imagination all the time.

The character's name:

What the character looks like. Why he or she wears this kind of clothing

How old the character is

Who his or her relatives or friends are

Who he or she likes a lot

What the character likes to do best, his or her hobbies

What the character doesn't like to do

What the character is feeling

Anything else special about the character

Now, print the model. Draw in the face and clothing for your character. Write the answers to the questions on the paper around your character. Look at our examples! They come from *Thunder Cake* by Patricia Polacco and *Less than Half, More than Whole* by Kathleen and Michael Lacapa