Developing characters

Unit 4 Fiction for older children





A character is a person in a story. A character can also sometimes be an animal or any other being, such as a god or goddess. In this session, you will describe characters' personalities and explore how characters bring a story to life.



1. Sit in a circle.

How many characters from stories do your group know?

Take it in turns to name a character from a story.

You can include stories about people, gods or animals. If you have par

You can include stories about people, gods or animals. If you have paper, write a list.



2. Work as a group.

One person chooses a character from the previous activity that everybody in the group knows.

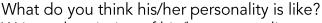
He/she plays the role of that character.

The group asks questions about the character, and he/she answers 'yes' or 'no'.

Can the group guess who the character is?



3. Each person chooses a book from the library with an interesting-looking character on the cover.

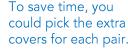


Write a description of his/her personality or tell your ideas to a partner.



4. Ask your partner to read or listen to your description again.

Show your partner three book covers with characters
on them (one should be the book you chose for your description).
Can he/she guess which character your description is about?

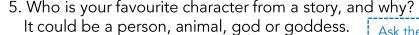


Ask for a volunteer, or pick a person

who is confident

talking in front of the group.





Ask these questions if the students get stuck:

- What do you like about him/her?
- Does he/she remind you of anyone you know?
- Is there anything you don't like about him/her?
- What would happen if he/she joined our reading group?





