

Activity 1

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Name _____ Date _____

Character Study

*Talking about **character** is one thing. But putting words into actions can sometimes be tough. Study the list of character traits below, and then read the passages that follow. Which trait is being put into action for each example?*

Character Traits:

- **courage:** the quality of will that helps someone be brave in the face of fear
- **diligence:** working hard at something and not giving up
- **excellence:** doing something to the best of one's ability
- **kindness:** being friendly, generous, or understanding to someone
- **respect:** an action that demonstrates admiration or honor toward someone

1. No matter how many times Fernando tried to solve the math problem, he couldn't find the answer. "I'll never finish my homework," he sighed. But he didn't want a zero. "I'm not giving up now," he thought. And then he remembered! His teacher had taught him a special trick. The problem wasn't hard after all!

Character trait: _____

2. Carla's dad was the star of his middle school track team, and sometimes it seemed like she'd never measure up to his accomplishments. But she still practiced every day, because no matter what, she wanted to do her best. Nothing felt better than when she beat her best time in her town's track meet.

Character trait: _____

3. Shawn's stomach flipped. Even though nobody realized he'd started the rumor, he'd hurt someone and he knew he had to make it right. He took a deep breath and walked toward Laura.

Character trait: _____

4. Derek was psyched when he saw all the snow that had fallen during the night. "No school today!" he shouted. As he went to turn on the TV he noticed his elderly neighbor, Mrs. Cullen, shoveling her driveway. Derek ran outside. "I'll finish for you, Mrs. Cullen," he said.

Character trait: _____

5. Yeh-Shen spent every night for weeks going through the big box of old photographs in the closet. Her grandparents were going to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary, and she was making a special scrapbook. She couldn't wait to present it to them.

Character trait: _____

