

The Beginning of a Hero™

Student Interaction Sheet



Serving the 2023-2024 School Year

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The Chair Incident

1. Has something ever happened to you like happened to Ryan? How did you feel?

2. Why do you think the boy moved Ryan's chair?

3. Why do you think Ryan and his family invited the boy to their home?

4. What did the boy learn from Ryan's family?

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Jason's Story

1. What have you done in the past to HELP your teachers? How did it make you feel?

2. How do you think Jason felt when he met up with the two boys outside the school? How do you think he felt when the principal showed up?

3. What do you think your dad would have done about the situation? Why?

4. Why do you think one of the boys became friends with Jason?

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I Said I Was Sorry

1. Write about a time when you needed to apologize to someone.

2. Explain why you think rules are necessary.

3. Mr. Turner said, “You always have a choice—to HELP others (AND yourself) or to HURT others (and yourself).” What did he mean when he said, “and yourself?”

4. How could the boy who ran into Shawn have made the situation better even after he broke the rule about running in the hall?

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The Making of a Hero

1. How would you describe yourself as a student? Can you honestly say that you do your very best at everything? If not, how can you improve?

2. Who did Mr. Delaney think Jeremy was hurting? In what way?

3. If he tried harder, what kinds of things did Mr. Delaney think Jeremy could accomplish?

4. List some things you would like to accomplish. Do you need to try harder to succeed at these things? Explain.

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At the Skating Rink

1. Have you ever had a difficult time when you were trying something brand new? Write about it.

2. How do you think Dane felt when the boys were teasing and making fun of him? If it were YOU instead of Dane, what would you have done?

3. How do you think Dane felt when Hanna began to HELP him?

4. If you had been able to HELP Dane the way Hanna did, how would it have made you feel?

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A Full Circle

1. What is something you love as much as Lewis loved the symphony? How does it make you feel if someone makes fun of you about it?

2. How do you think the boy's life could have been different if he hadn't hurt Lewis and so many others?

3. Write about what you think it means to be "honorable."

4. What can you do in your own life to make others think of you as honorable?

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In the Cafeteria

1. Write about a time when you have felt really embarrassed.

2. Write about a time that you have HELPED someone else when they were embarrassed.

3. Be honest with yourself and see if you can think of a time when you might have been in on the teasing side of things.

4. What did Kara say to those kids about using their brain power?

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The Same Difference

1. Is there someone's way of saying and doing things that you really admire?

2. What do you think being COOL really is?

3. Do you think Confidence and Arrogance are the same or two entirely different things? Explain.

4. What do you think Mr. Delaney meant when he talked about being a HERO to your own future self?

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Full Stop, Then Proceed

1. Have you ever seen a situation kind of like the one in this story?

2. If so, how did the people around you react?

3. Have you ever accidentally injured or nearly injured someone else?

4. Have you ever lost your temper toward someone else? And if so, did you apologize afterward? If so, how? If not, why not?

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Where Is Juan's Backpack?

1. Write about something special you have brought to school (either to eat or to show your class).

2. How would you feel if it had disappeared, and no one could find it?

3. Have you ever known of something like this happening to you or to one of your friends? Did you think it was funny, or did you feel bad about it? Explain.

4. Discuss how you think the two boys felt when they realized they had hurt Juan.

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To Shoplift or Not to Shoplift

1. Have you and a friend gone shopping together? Write about it.

2. Have you ever known anyone who shoplifted from a store? How did you feel about it?

3. How was the boy going to hurt the store if he had taken the wrenches? How was he going to hurt himself if he had taken them?

4. How was Addison being a HERO to his friend?

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It Was Just An Accident!

1. Do you play on a sports team? Have you ever seen someone get hurt while playing? Write about it.

2. Have you ever seen someone accidentally hurt you or one of your friends? Did they say, "I'm sorry" or say, "It was just an accident"? How did that make you feel?

3. Why did the coach send the pitcher to the bench? Do you think the coach should have done that? Why or why not?

4. How do you think the coach HELPED the pitcher and his dad that day?

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The Perps Saw Pink

1. Mr. Delaney said this true story happened in Nova Scotia, Canada. Write where in Canada Nova Scotia is.

2. Some kids look for things to tease others about. What are some things you have seen people being teased about? Have you ever made fun of someone else? Explain.

3. Why do you think the other boys wore pink shirts to school the day after the new kid was teased so badly? How do you feel about that?

4. How do you think it made the new boy feel when the other guys wore the pink shirts to school? Would you have worn a pink shirt that day if you had been there? Why?

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Tevin Gives the Wrong Answer

1. What is your favorite subject in school? Do you always get the right answers in that subject?

2. Have you ever been laughed at for a wrong answer? How did it make you feel?

3. Have you ever laughed at someone else for a wrong answer? How did it make you feel?

4. Do you stop to think about being HELPFUL or hurtful before you say or do things to others? Why?

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Picture Day

1. Write about a time when you forgot to dress the right way for an important occasion. How did you feel?

2. What did you think of Melinda's idea to let Niesha wear her shirt for the picture?

3. Why do you think the teacher thought Melinda was being a HERO?

4. The teacher said to the girls, "Every time you have a chance to _____ others, all you have to do is think a little bit, and you can be a HERO by _____ instead!" Explain what that means.

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The Litter Bug

1. Write about when you or someone you know might have been a litterbug.

2. What should the boy have done when he finished his drink?

3. How was the boy hurting others?

4. Have you ever HELPED someone else choose to be a HERO instead of being hurtful?

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The Coat Incident

1. Can you think of a time when you might have hurt your parent's feelings? Write about it.

2. Have you ever thought that you could be hurtful even to your parents? Write about it.

3. Has someone ever given you a gift that disappointed you? What did you do or say?

4. Write one way that you can actually be a HERO to your parents.

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When I Crossed the Line

1. Have you ever been disrespectful to an adult who works at your school? How do you think that made them feel?

2. Give an example of being hurtful to your teacher.

3. Give an example of being a HERO to your teacher.

4. Write about the importance of controlling your words and actions.

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Scary Stories

1. Do you like to hear scary stories? Do you like to tell scary stories? Have you ever seen someone cry because of a scary story?

2. How were the boys being hurtful to the little brother?

3. What does the word terrorist mean?

4. What is a good story you could tell a younger child that would make him or her smile?

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Obedience School

1. Have you ever had a pet you were proud of and loved very much? Write about it.

2. Can you think of someone who discourages others? How does he or she make you feel?

3. Be honest with yourself. Do you sometimes discourage others? If so, how does knowing that make you feel? How do you think it makes them feel?

4. Why do you think some people discourage others? What would be the better choice?

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Skateboarding on the Driveway

1. Do you have any sports HEROES (or any other kind of HEROES)? Do you think they practiced a lot to get really good at what they do? Explain.

2. Have you ever had someone tease you when you were trying really hard to do something better? How did that make you feel?

3. Have you ever teased someone else for trying hard at something? How do you think it made him or her feel?

4. How was the father in the story a HERO that day to his own son AND to the teasers?

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Erica Didn't Tattle. She Reported.

1. Would it have been funny for the boy to sign his name on the beautiful painting? Why or why not?

2. What is vandalism?

3. Have you ever seen an example of vandalism? How did it make you feel?

4. Explain the difference between "tattling" and "reporting."

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He's Just My Little Brother

1. Write about how you treat your little brother or sister.

2. Do you treat your little brother or sister differently than you treat your friends? Why?

3. Can you think of a better way Clarissa could have greeted her little brother as their lines passed?

4. Write about something really nice you would like to do for your little brother or sister after you get home from school today.

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Jennifer and the Cyber-bullies

1. Tell what you already know about cyber-bullies. Do you know someone who is doing this?

2. Do you know someone who has been a victim of cyber-bullies? How did it make them feel?

3. Is cyber-bullying serious? Why?

4. What did Mr. Delaney say to do if you or a friend has been hurt by cyber-bullies?

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One Coat and One Marker

1. Why do you think the boy chose to write on Darius's leather jacket? Do you think he stopped to think before he did it?

2. What do you think about the way Robbie handled getting the teacher's attention? Was he being a tattletale or taking responsibility? Explain the difference.

3. How would you have felt if you had been Darius or his parents?

4. How would you have felt if you had been the parents of the boy with the marker?

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Mr. Delaney's Father

1. Do you have a favorite story about someone in your family? Write about it.

2. Mr. Delaney learned a very important lesson from his father. Write about an adult in your life who has HELPED you learn something important.

3. Are you setting a good example for someone younger than you? Write about it.

4. How would you explain to someone the difference between being HELPFUL and being hurtful?

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Jenny's Dad, the Hero

1. Have you ever seen anyone hurt an adult? Write about it.

2. How do you think Jenny felt as she watched her father step up and rescue the lady? What do you think she learned?

3. How do you think the lady felt when she was mistreated?

4. How do you think the lady felt when Jenny's dad HELPED her?

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The New School

1. Have you ever heard someone say something bad about you that you'd never thought about yourself before? Did you think it was true? How did that make you feel?

2. Have you ever told someone else something bad about himself or herself? How do you think it made the other person feel?

3. Do you ever talk to an adult at home or school about things that bother you? How does it HELP you?

4. Write about how you can be a friend to someone who is feeling badly about himself or herself.

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Lauren Meets a Real Hero

1. Have you ever been a new student at a school where everyone already knew each other? What was that like for you?

2. When a new kid comes to your school or class, do you try to be a friend to him or her? If so, how do you go about doing this?

3. Do you ever worry about making some of your old friends angry at you when you try to make a new friend? Are they right to be angry? Explain.

4. In what two ways was Carlos being a HERO to Lauren?

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A Bookworm and a Social Butterfly

1. Do you find it difficult to be patient with others? If so, what could you do about it?

2. What is something you know you are good at? How could you HELP someone else learn to be good at it, too?

3. What do you think about the teacher's way of handling the girls' arguments with each other?

4. How do you think the girls felt about what the teacher did when the problems were solved?

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Jenny's Dog Died

1. Write about a time when something made you so sad that you cried a lot.

2. Have you ever had someone make fun of you for crying? How did that make you feel?

3. Have you ever laughed at someone else for crying? How could you have HELPED instead?

4. How was Jenny's brother a HERO to her and to his friend?

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Thumper Gets Stopped

1. Have you ever let someone hurt you repeatedly without reporting it to an adult? Write about it.

2. Have you been guilty of hurting someone repeatedly without getting caught? Why did you do that? Explain in detail.

3. List some ways you could HELP stop hurtful behavior at your school.

4. If you were to see this happen to someone else, what would you do? (Would that be the BEST thing to do?)

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End of the Year Discussion

1. How would you have answered Mr. Delaney's question, "Why should we all be HELPERS?"

2. Why does HELPING others make the world a better place?

3. How does HELPING others make life easier?

4. What do you think the world would be like if we all thought life was just about having fun?

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Achievers and Non-achievers

1. How would you describe the difference in achievers and non-achievers?

2. Be honest with yourself. Which are you, and why?

3. Write about someone you know who is a real achiever and tell what you believe he or she might accomplish in the future?

4. What do you hope to accomplish in your future?

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Marcus, the Flower Boy

1. What special thing do you enjoy that isn't necessarily a favorite for the rest of your friends?

2. Do you enjoy doing certain things with a parent or grandparent? Explain.

3. Can you appreciate special interests of your friends or do you tease them about it just because you don't enjoy doing it yourself? Explain.

4. Write about something one of your friends knows more about than you do.

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Practicing Their Music

1. Was the boy encouraging or discouraging to Armando and Gabriella? In what way?

2. Do you like to learn new things? How do you want to be treated when you're learning something new?

3. How could the boy have actually HELPED Armando and Gabriella?

4. Whether someone is trying music, sports, artwork, or anything else new, what should your attitude be toward that person and his or her new interest?
