

The Beginning of a Hero™

Student Interaction Sheet



Serving the 2024-2025 School Year

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The Boy Who Couldn't Read

1. What is something you have as a special talent? Is it something you do really well?

2. What is something you have been teased about for not being able to do well?
How did that make you feel?

3. How do you think it made Francine feel when she was truly able to HELP the boy learn to read?

4. How could you HELP someone learn to do something you do well?

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Laura Gets Tripped

1. Tell about a time when you did something embarrassing.

2. How does it make you feel to have others laugh at you? Have you ever been guilty of laughing at someone else?

3. What did LaToya mean when she said that some kids just take longer to grow up than others do?

4. Tell about a time when you HELPED someone else when others were not HELPING.

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Charlie Simons Is a HERO

1. What was the greatest thing Charlie did to become a HERO?

2. What does it mean that some of Charlie's friends had to work hard to stay out of trouble?

3. How would you have felt if you'd been the younger boy who dropped his books?

4. How do you think the boy who knocked the books down felt after Charlie's reaction?

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The Girl with the Long Hair

1. Who do you think the HERO was in this story?

2. What do you think the girl's home was like?

3. Write about some important advice the counselor gave the girl.

4. How did the counselor's advice HELP change the girl?

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Lisa's Long Day

1. Write about something that has happened to you that started your day off all wrong.

2. How did Lisa's mother describe being hurtful?

3. What is one word in the story that fits everyone who acts hurtful? S _ _ _ _ _ !

4. What other choice does a hurtful person have?

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Rebecca and Her Three Friends

1. What is something fun and special that you and your friends share?

2. Are you and your friends careful about how you treat other people?

3. What do you think about the way Rebecca handled the problem?

4. Tell about a time when you or someone else was mistreated by a group of people who were already close friends.

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Wyndel, the Horseback Rider

1. Write about special talents some of your friends have.

2. Do you know what your special talent is yet?

3. How should you treat someone else's special talent?

4. Have you ever been teased because you couldn't do something as well as someone else?
How did that make you feel?

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Jacob and the Star Crunch

1. How does this story make you feel?

2. If you had been Jacob, how would you have felt about having your lunch dessert taken away?

3. How do you think Jacob felt after he learned the truth?

4. What do you think about the way the problem was solved?

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Ray and the Science Project

1. Write about a science project you have made.

2. How could someone have destroyed your project?

3. How would that have made you feel?

4. Have you known someone who was a friend—but sometimes not really? Tell about how that affects you.

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Norvelee

1. Are you named after someone special? If so, write about it.

2. Have you ever been teased about your name? How did you feel?

3. If you could change your name, what would you choose to be called?

4. Why do you think someone would want to tease another person about his or her name?

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Vandalizing Is Wrong

1. What does the word vandalizing mean?

2. What are some ways to vandalize other than damaging artwork?

3. What do you think those boys were thinking when they messed up the painting?

4. Discuss some better things those boys could have been doing with their afternoon time.

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HEROES HELP Themselves

1. Tell about something you have learned from a special teacher.

2. Fill in the blanks: HEROES _____ others and never _____ others. Explain how.

3. Explain how you can be hurtful to your future self.

4. Explain how you can be a HERO to your future self.

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My Mother Is a Teacher

1. Is your mother a teacher at your school or do you know someone whose mother is a teacher?

2. Have you thought that teacher's children get special privileges at school? Explain.

3. Have you ever had to apologize for saying something unkind to another student? Write about it.

4. Who was the real HERO in this story?

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Laura Can't Swim

1. Write about something you are afraid to do that some of your friends can do well.

2. Do you know someone who is afraid to do something you are good at doing?

3. How could you HELP a friend feel better about something they fear?

4. What do you say when you hear others making fun of someone behind his or her back?

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The Bouncing Pencil

1. Describe something you find very distracting that someone might do in one of your classes.

2. Write about two of the different ways Mr. Delaney said someone can be hurtful.

3. Be honest with yourself and write about a way you may be acting hurtful by disturbing others in class. Then promise yourself not to do it anymore.

4. How would you describe a learning friendly environment?

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He Was Told He Can't Sing

1. Did someone ever accuse you of being bad at something you thought you did well? Write about it and how it made you feel.

2. Be honest! Did you ever tell someone he or she wasn't doing something well? How do you think it made him or her feel?

3. What might have happened if Kyle's father had not taken his friend so seriously?

4. How do you think Kyle's dad's story affected Kyle and also his friend? What do you think they learned from it?

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Mrs. Reeves Is Retiring

1. How could you be hurtful to a teacher?

2. How could you be a HERO to a teacher?

3. Explain what you think it takes to become a teacher.

4. Tell about when you have worked hard at something and had someone be hurtful to you.

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My Dad's On the School Board

1. Do you always come prepared for class? Do you expect others to provide your supplies?

2. Did Ryan or the other boy have special privileges because of what their fathers did?

3. List several jobs that fathers might have that make them HEROES just by doing their jobs.

4. What kind of HERO would you like to be when you grow up?

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Carlos and Brandon

1. Explain how Carlos' role models could HELP him to be a hero.

2. Why do you think the hurtful boy couldn't seem to make good grades?

3. How would you describe the kid who wrote the note to the teacher? Would you like to have him for a friend? Why?

4. What do you think the boy might have learned that day?

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It Happened In the Library

1. What is something you really love to do but some of your friends don't? Have they teased you about it?

2. What about you? Have you teased someone for something they love to do?

3. Write about a good book you've read lately.

4. List some benefits of reading a lot.

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Robbie Lives In a Trailer

1. Do you know someone who lives in a bigger house than you do? Have you ever been teased about that?

2. Do you know someone who lives in a smaller house than you do? Have you or others teased him or her about that?

3. What is the most important thing about someone's home?

4. What do you think about Robbie's dad's idea of living in the trailer for a year and saving money for a better house than they had before?

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Daniel Loved Music

1. Which do you love the most, music or sports? Do you think someone can love them both or at least appreciate the skills it takes for both?

2. Why do you think Daniel's friends teased him about his music?

3. Do you believe that everyone must enjoy and participate in sports? Why?

4. Who do you think had the best attitude, Daniel or his friends?

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Betsy's New Clothes

1. Write about a time when you were excited about something and another person discouraged you about it and spoiled your excitement.

2. Who was the real HERO in this story? Do you have the courage to speak up to a friend when they are acting hurtful?

3. What do you think about the way the boy let Betsy know he was sorry?

4. Think of your own creative ways to apologize. Write about them!

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Sam Was New At School

1. Have you ever overlooked someone's great qualities and focused on something he or she would probably like to change about themselves? Did you tease him or her about it?

2. Think about yourself for a moment. What is something someone might tease you about? How would (or does) that make you feel?

3. In this story, there was a group of hurtful people with one leader and the others just following. Have you seen situations like that before? Tell about it.

4. What would the hurtful leader need to change about himself to become a leader of HEROES?

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Comparing Grades

1. Have you ever had a friend like this who became angry with you when your grade was higher? Explain.

2. Have you ever treated someone else this way when your grade was lower?

3. Why do you think about the girl having gone so far as to hit Maria over their grades?

4. Explore two ways the girl can bring up her own grades.

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The Class Clown

1. Discuss ways someone might be acting hurtful without even knowing it.

2. How was Jimmy hurting others?

3. Who all was Jimmy hurting with his silliness? (Hint: Not just the other students in the class.)

4. How did the teacher say that Jimmy could use his talents to actually HELP others?

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My Friend Is Not “Cool”

1. What does it mean to be “cool?”

2. Describe a friend you think is really cool?

3. What is cool about you?

4. Have you ever been teased for not being cool? How did that make you feel?

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Her Brother Is In Prison

1. Did Linda deserve to be teased because her brother was in prison? Why? Have you known a situation like this?

2. How could the girls make Linda feel more comfortable at school?

3. Even though it wasn't her fault, how do you think Linda might have felt about her brother being in prison?

4. Think of people you might know who have been in trouble and how their families might have been affected.

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Christopher's New Backpack

1. Tell about something new you got but had to wait for. How did getting it make you feel?

2. How do you think Christopher felt when the boy wiped his muddy shoe on the new backpack?

3. What do you think the teacher meant when she said the boy had a need to feel like he was better than somebody else?

4. Have you ever had something like this happen to you? How did you feel?

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I Can't Go

1. Have you ever had to turn friends down because your parents wouldn't let you go somewhere with them? How did that make you feel?

2. Why do you think Anna's parents didn't want her to go to some of these places?

3. Why did the mom call her daughter and her daughter's friends immature?

4. Why do you think the girl called the cookies "HERO cookies?"

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My Daddy's Job

1. What does your mom or dad do for a job? Explain how she or he is a HERO.

2. What job are you thinking you would like to have when you grow up? How will that make you a HERO?

3. How did the mother HELP the girls realize the importance of all jobs?

4. How do you think the girls felt after she explained everyone needs everyone else?

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Carla Enjoys Reading

1. What kind of books do you most like to read?

2. Who is your favorite HERO that you have read about? How was he or she a HERO?

3. Have you ever been teased for reading? How did it make you feel?

4. What do you think of the way Carla and her teacher handled the hurtful students?

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The Science Nerd

1. What does the word “nerd” mean to you?

2. Have you ever been teased or have you ever known someone who was teased as a nerd? How do you think it made him or her feel?

3. What is your favorite science topic to study? History?

4. How can you learn from your friends’ special interests?

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The Teacher's Pet

1. How would you define the term "teacher's pet?"

2. Why do you think a teacher would be happier with students who keep the rules than with those who break them?

3. Tell how you think the kids who break the rules could be hurting others. Themselves?

4. How does keeping the rules HELP students? How does breaking the rules hurt them?

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Learning English

1. Have you ever tried to learn a new language? Write about it.

2. Do you know someone who can speak two languages? How do you think that HELPS them?

3. Why do you think the boys in the story made fun of a different language?

4. How could they become HEROES to Marcos instead of being hurtful?

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Larry's Limp

1. Tell about someone you know who has a physical challenge like Larry.

2. Have you seen or heard someone teasing about a physical challenge? How did it make you feel?

3. Do you know anyone who loves to brag about himself or herself? Do you like that about him or her?

4. How can you be a HERO to someone with a physical challenge?
