

# Finley's Fantastic Friends: Character Creation Fun!

## Let's Get Started! (5-10 minutes)

Hi Finley! Today, we're going on an amazing adventure into the world of stories! Think about your favorite story. Who is your favorite character in that story? What makes them special or fun?

We're going to become story creators today and invent our very own characters! These characters can be anything you imagine – a brave knight, a silly monster, a talking animal, or even a magical paintbrush!

## What Makes a Character? (10-15 minutes)

Characters are the people, animals, or creatures in a story. They have:

- **Looks:** What color hair do they have? Are they tall or short? Do they wear funny clothes? Are they an animal, a person, or something else?
- **Personality:** Are they happy, grumpy, brave, shy, funny, or smart? What do they like to do? What do they NOT like?
- **A Special Quirk:** Maybe they always wear mismatched socks, or can talk to squirrels, or collect shiny buttons!

Let's think about some silly ideas together! What if we had a character who was a cloud that loved to tell jokes? Or a dog who dreamed of being an astronaut?

## Your Turn to Create! (20-30 minutes)

Now it's your turn, Finley, to create your very own awesome character! Get your paper and art supplies ready.

1. **Think & Imagine:** Close your eyes for a moment. What kind of character do you want to make? Is it a person, an animal, or something fantastical?
2. **Draw Your Character:** Draw a big picture of your character. Think about their smile (or frown!), their clothes, their hair (or fur or scales!), and any special things they might have (like a magic wand, a cool hat, or wings!).
3. **Give Your Character a Name:** What will you call your new friend?
4. **Think About Them:**
  - What is your character's name?
  - What do they look like? (colors, size, clothes)
  - What is their personality like? (happy, brave, shy, funny)
  - What is something they love to do?
  - What is one special or silly thing about them? (their quirk!)

*(Teacher: Encourage Finley to think aloud and provide gentle prompts if needed. Focus on fun and imagination, not perfection.)*

## Show and Tell! (10-15 minutes)

Wow, Finley! Your character looks amazing! Let's talk about them.

- Tell me your character's name.
- Show me your drawing and tell me all about what they look like.

- What is their personality like?
- What do they love to do?
- What's their special quirk?

Imagine your character going on an adventure! Where would they go? What would they do?

## **Wrap-up & Next Steps (5 minutes)**

Great job creating your character today, Finley! Characters are like the puzzle pieces that make stories so much fun. We can keep this character safe, and maybe next time, we can think about a story for them to be in!

You could even make some more character friends for the one you created today!