

# Character, Plot

**Apply In:**

"An Aid for Oscar," page 4

## 1 Reteach

Use puppets to tell a story: Leila loves to draw, but she thinks her pictures are ugly. She wishes she had crayons, but she only has a pencil. She is sad. She likes her friend Sam's colorful pictures.

Then say: Leila and Sam are the characters in this story. A character is a person in a story. To understand why Leila feels sad, think about what happens to her.

Continue the story with puppets: Sam says to Leila, "Do you want to draw together? We can share my crayons." Leila draws a picture of her and Sam.

Ask: What happens in the beginning of the story? What happens next? How does the story end?

Then display and discuss this chart:

Character	Plot
To figure out who the characters are, ask: <b>Who is in the story?</b>	To figure out what the plot is, ask: <b>What happens at the beginning, middle, and end of the story?</b>

### Materials

- puppets

## 2 Practice with a Partner

Have partners draw pictures that show the characters and plot of the story you told.

## Character, Plot

### 3 Apply

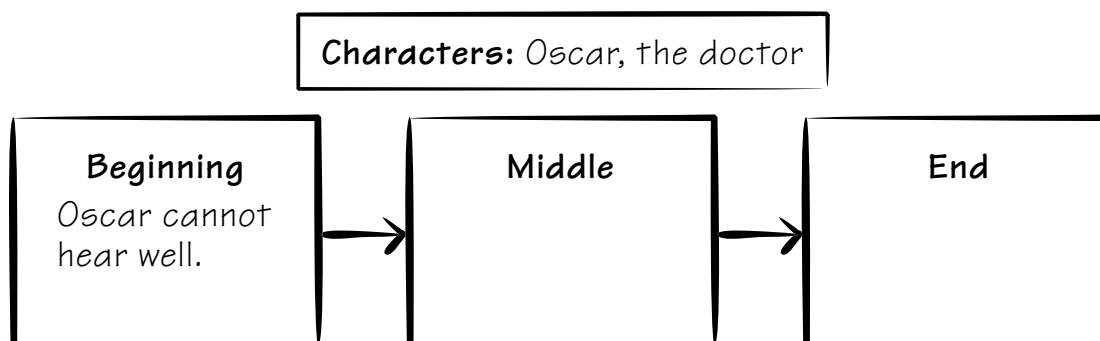
Distribute copies of the **Character and Plot Bookmark** and “An Aid for Oscar.” Explain that children should refer to the Bookmark as they listen or read. Then form groups.

- ▶ **Beginning Readers** listen as you read the story aloud.
- ▶ **More Fluent Readers** read the story silently.

After reading, bring groups together to identify the characters and plot in the story. Use the **Multi-Level Strategies** to involve children at all proficiency levels.

BEGINNING	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED
Ask: <b>Which character helps Oscar—a friend or the doctor? Does Oscar hear his friends at the beginning of the story or the end?</b>	Ask: <b>Who are the characters? What happens in the beginning, middle, and end? How does Oscar feel at the beginning and end?</b>	Have children ask a partner about the characters and the plot. Encourage them to discuss how Oscar’s feelings change and why they change.

Record children’s ideas in a story map like this:



After completing the map, have children retell the story.

### CLOSE AND ASSESS

Have children tell what a character is (who is in a story) and what the plot is (what happens in the beginning, middle, and end).

## Character

A **character** is a person or an animal in a story. Look at what the character does and says. This character cries. She says, "I want to go, too!" This tells me she is sad.



## Plot

The **plot** is what happens in a story. A plot has a beginning, middle, and end.

**Beginning:** Mimi wants to go.



**Middle:** The bus is full.



**End:** Sali gives her a seat.

↑ Fold

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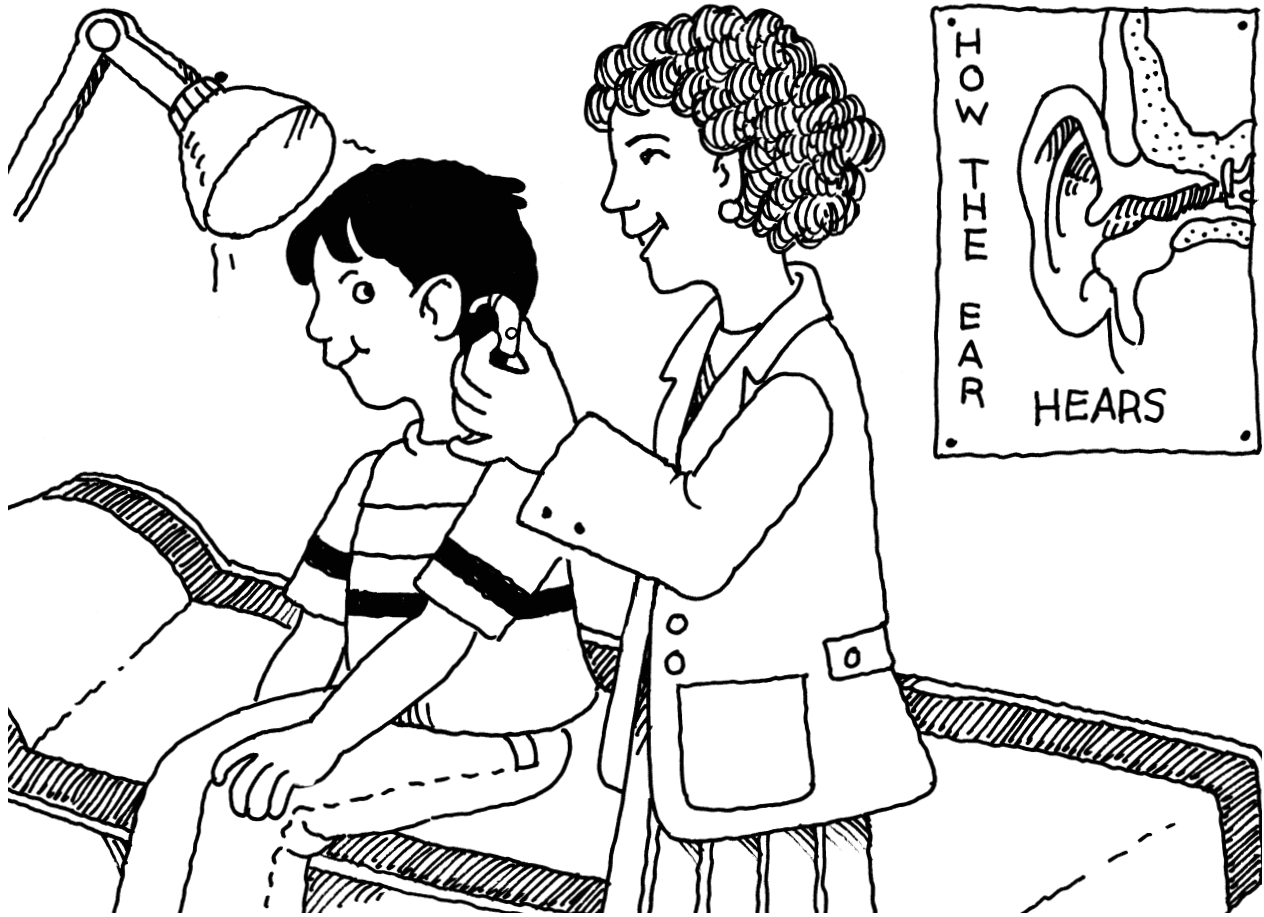
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## An Aid for Oscar

Oscar cannot hear well. There is a problem with his ears. This makes Oscar upset.

Oscar visits the doctor. He is afraid the doctor will hurt his ears. The doctor checks Oscar's ears. She shows Oscar a hearing aid.

"Try this," the doctor says.

The hearing aid helps Oscar hear. It doesn't hurt at all.

Now Oscar is happy. He can hear the teacher. He can hear his baby sister cry. Best of all, he can hear his friends say, "Oscar, come play!"