

Character, Problem

Apply In:

"The Family Party," page 4

1 Reteach

Ask two volunteers to help you tell a story. Ask the audience: **Who is in the story?** Then say: **Yes, Chan and Lea are in the story. They are the characters. A character is who is in a story.**

Have the volunteers role-play as you tell the story: **Chan says hello to Lea, but Lea doesn't answer. She just walks by!**

Then explain: **Something is wrong. Lea doesn't even talk to Chan. This is the story problem. How does Chan feel about the problem?**

Continue: **Chan, show me how you fix the problem. What do you do?** (possible solution: Chan asks Lea why she didn't answer. Lea is surprised. She didn't even hear Chan call her. They are friends again.) Say: **Chan fixed the problem! Chan and Lea, how do you feel now?**

Then display and discuss this chart:

Character	Story Problem
To figure out who the characters are, ask: Who is in the story?	To figure out the problem, ask: What is wrong?
To learn about a character, ask: What does the character feel and do?	At the end of the story, ask: How does the problem get solved?

2 Practice with a Partner

Have partners page through the book and use the illustrations to identify the characters, the characters' feelings and actions, and the story problem.

Materials

- familiar picture book, such as *The Three Little Pigs*

Character, Problem

3 Apply

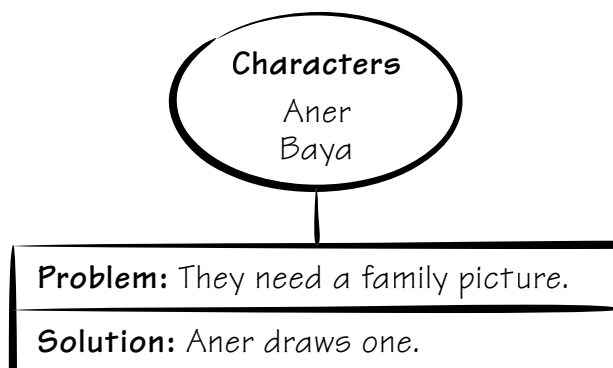
Distribute copies of the **Character and Story Problem Bookmark** and “The Family Party.” Explain that students should refer to the Bookmark as they listen or read. Then form groups.

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

After reading, have students identify the characters and the problem in the story. Use the **Multi-Level Strategies** to involve students at all proficiency levels.

BEGINNING	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED
Ask questions with embedded answers: Who is a character—Aner or the party? Does Aner want to find a picture or a special song?	Help students answer questions in complete sentences: Who is Aner? What is his problem? How does the problem make him feel?	Have students name the characters in the story. One student can state Aner’s problem and another tells what he does to solve it.

Record students’ ideas in a chart, for example:



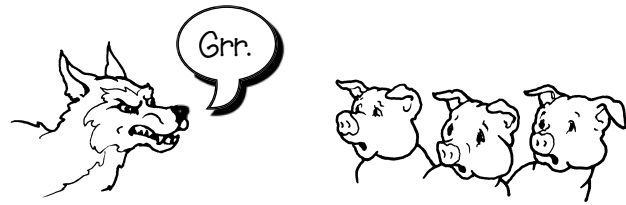
Have students use the chart to discuss how the problem and solution make the characters feel.

CLOSE AND ASSESS

Have students tell what a character is (who is in a story) and how to learn about a character (think about their feelings and actions). Then ask what a story problem is (what is wrong).

Character

A **character** is a person or an animal in a story. A character's words and actions show what the character is like. In the story "The Three Little Pigs," the wolf and pigs are characters.



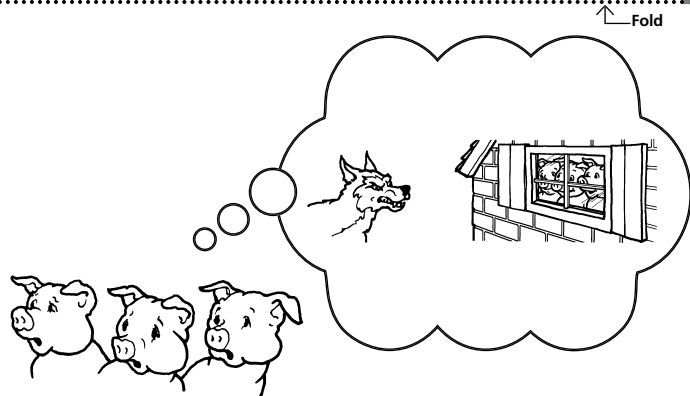
The wolf is mean.

The pigs are scared.

Story Problem

Some stories tell how a character solves a **problem**. A problem is something a character has to solve, or fix.

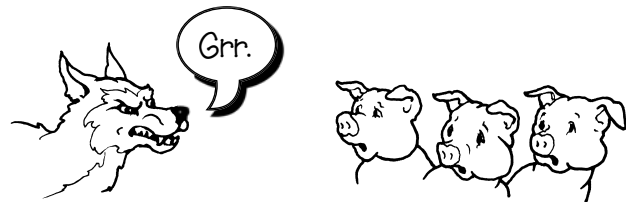
In the story "The Three Little Pigs," the pigs have a problem. They need houses to protect themselves from the wolf who wants to eat them.



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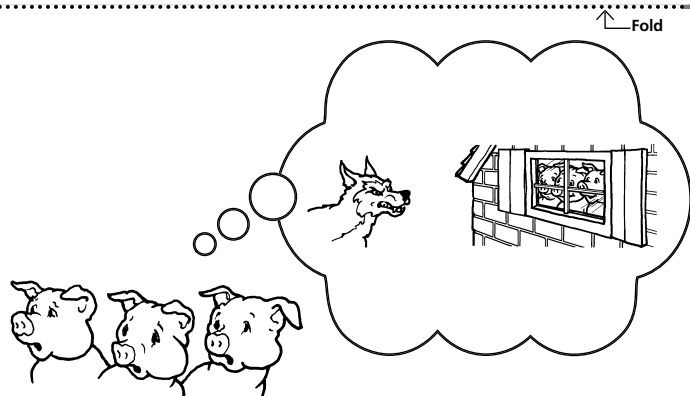
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The Family Party

Aner wants to have a family party. Aner and his brother, Baya, bake a chocolate cake. Then Aner decorates the living room with streamers. Baya writes a special song while Aner looks for a picture of the family.

“Baya, I can’t find a good picture. We can’t have a party without a family picture!” Aner is worried.

“Why don’t you draw one?” Baya asks.

“That’s a great idea!” Aner says.

Aner gets some paper and a pencil. He draws the whole family. Baya colors the picture with crayons.

The party is a lot of fun. Aner’s mother eats two slices of cake. Aner’s father sings the song. Everyone loves the picture!