

Name _____

Minna and the Canine Club

Elements of Fiction

Characters

Characters can be the people, animals, or things that the author writes about in the story. The characters take part in the story's plot and are involved in the action.

There is more than one character in a story. You will learn a lot about the main character or characters, but not a lot about the minor characters in the story. The more you learn about the main character or characters the better you will understand the story. You will also get greater enjoyment from reading the story when you know the characters. When you know what they look like, and begin to understand their personality you will have more interest in the plot. In order to learn about a character's personality you need to **watch what they do**, **what they say**, and **how they interact** with the other characters.



Read the text below from *Minna and the Canine Club* (page 26 in the book)

"Thank you for getting me to school! You dogs are the best pup pals a girl could ask for," Maggie said.

"Well, we could not have done it without everyone's help," Blue said. "When we put our paws together anything is possible."

"You are right, Blue, Minna said. "I am so glad all of my students are here. Now, let's put a big flowerpot over the hole so our humans don't find it. I think it's officially time for school to be in session. But first, some pizza for our hard work! I've got that covered.

And with that, they ran into their new classroom.

Show what you learned about the characters by answering the following questions.

What did you learn about Maggie from what she said in the text? _____

What did you learn about Blue from what he said? _____

How did the dogs interact with each other? What does that tell you about them?

Answer Sheet

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Example

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Show what you learned about the characters by answering the following questions.

Answers may vary

What did you learn about Maggie from what she said in the text? **Maggie appreciates all the help her friends gave her. She makes sure to thank them, which shows she is polite.**

What did you learn about Blue from what he said? **Blue is an encourager because he says anything is possible with teamwork. He is also kind because he gives credit to everyone.**

How did the dogs interact with each other? What does that tell you about them?

The dogs must work together well. Blue said it took all of them to help Maggie. Also they take the time to help one another. They encourage each other and share with each other because they are going to have pizza that Minna brought. It tells me they are kind and caring friends.

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