



## Activity 1

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Character Study

Talking about **character** is one thing. But putting words into actions can sometimes be tough. Study the list of character traits below, and then read the passages that follow. Which trait is being put into action for each example?

#### Character Traits:

- **courage:** the quality of will that helps someone be brave in the face of fear
- **diligence:** working hard at something and not giving up
- **excellence:** doing something to the best of one's ability
- **kindness:** being friendly, generous, or understanding to someone
- **respect:** an action that demonstrates admiration or honor toward someone

**1.** No matter how many times Fernando tried to solve the math problem, he couldn't find the answer. "I'll never finish my homework," he sighed. But he didn't want a zero. "I'm not giving up now," he thought. And then he remembered! His teacher had taught him a special trick. The problem wasn't hard after all!

**Character trait:** \_\_\_\_\_

**2.** Carla's dad was the star of his middle school track team, and sometimes it seemed like she'd never measure up to his accomplishments. But she still practiced every day, because no matter what, she wanted to do her best. Nothing felt better than when she beat her best time in her town's track meet.

**Character trait:** \_\_\_\_\_

**3.** Shawn's stomach flipped. Even though nobody realized he'd started the rumor, he'd hurt someone and he knew he had to make it right. He took a deep breath and walked toward Laura.

**Character trait:** \_\_\_\_\_

**4.** Derek was psyched when he saw all the snow that had fallen during the night. "No school today!" he shouted. As he went to turn on the TV he noticed his elderly neighbor, Mrs. Cullen, shoveling her driveway. Derek ran outside. "I'll finish for you, Mrs. Cullen," he said.

**Character trait:** \_\_\_\_\_

**5.** Yeh-Shen spent every night for weeks going through the big box of old photographs in the closet. Her grandparents were going to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary, and she was making a special scrapbook. She couldn't wait to present it to them.

**Character trait:** \_\_\_\_\_

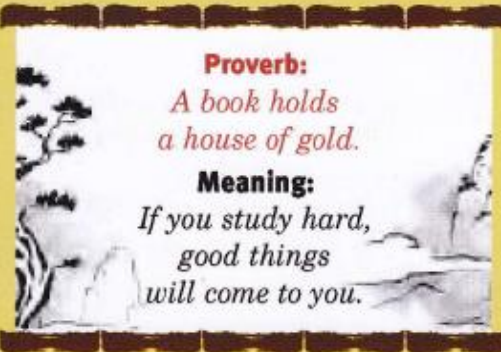


## Activity 2

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Proverbs Rule!



The proverb above might sound like something your grandma would say. But many proverbs have survived for hundreds of years. How cool is that? With proverbs you can receive ancient wisdom—without a time machine! Study the proverbs that follow, and write down what you think each means. Then discuss your answers as a group.

#### 1. Proverb:

You can't catch a cub without going into the tiger's den.

**Meaning:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

#### 2. Proverb:

A friend in need is a friend indeed.

**Meaning:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

#### 3. Proverb:

The early bird catches the worm.

**Meaning:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

#### 4. Proverb:

Haste makes waste.

**Meaning:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

#### 5. Proverb:

A single bamboo pole does not make a raft.

**Meaning:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_





## Activity 3

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### China Hunt

*Study the facts and map below to find out more about China, one of the world's oldest and most fascinating civilizations! Then test your skills by answering the questions to the right.*

- Formerly known as Peking, **Beijing** is the capital of China. It was the site of the summer Olympic games in 2008.
- The **Yangtze River**, China's longest river, flows just north of Shanghai into the East China Sea.
- Located about 300 miles southeast of Beijing, **Qufu** is the legendary birthplace of the ancient philosopher Confucius.
- Situated on the banks of the Yangtze River Delta, **Shanghai** is the largest city in China.
- Over 4,000 miles long, the **Great Wall** of China stretches across more than half the country.
- **Giant pandas**, an endangered species, live primarily in China's central mountain ranges.

### Questions:

1. Put the following in order from most northern to most southern: Yangtze River, Shanghai, Great Wall.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Describe the path of the Yangtze River across China from west to east, using directional words.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Where on the map would you add the East China Sea?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. About how many inches away from Beijing would you add the city of Qufu?  
\_\_\_\_\_

