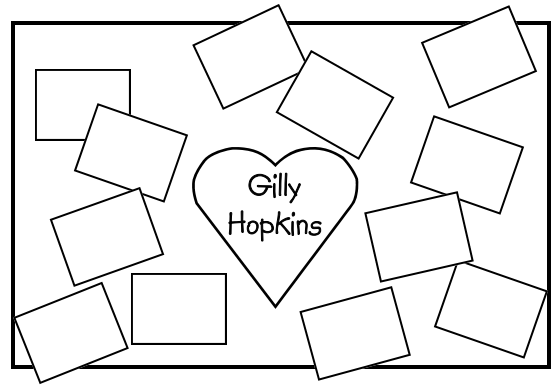


# Character Trait Challenge

## Materials for each team of four:

- Large sheet of construction paper or poster paper
- Scissors and glue sticks
- One heart pattern
- Character Trait slips (2 or 3 pages)
- Character Trait list
- One or more copies of the same book or story (basal reader biographies work well)



## Directions:

1. As a class, select an important character from a read-aloud book, novel, or basal reader story that everyone has read recently.
2. Challenge your class to see which team can name and justify the most character traits for that character in a given period of time.
3. Give each team one copy of the Character Trait slips page and have them cut it apart so that everyone starts with two slips of paper.
4. Ask them to think of character traits that describe the character and that can be supported with details from the story. Each person should write one character trait on his or her slip of paper and look for a page in the story that contains a supporting detail. The detail and page number should be recorded on the slip of paper. Students also need to record their first name on the line.
5. Team members should discuss the character traits and details as they work to be sure that they don't duplicate traits. If they run out of slips, provide them with additional copies. Encourage them to help each other with finding character traits and supporting details.
6. Have students place the heart in the middle of the poster paper and write the name of the character inside. As they complete each character trait slip, they should place it somewhere on the poster around the heart and glue it down.
7. Allow at least 30 minutes for this activity. When time runs out, allow students to walk around the room and view each other's posters. Decide which team has the most character traits that are supported by details from the story. Students may challenge each other's character traits and details if they don't agree with them. You can also award bonus points for teams that come up with character traits that are unique to their team poster (no other team thought of that trait).
8. If you grade this activity, assign individual grades by counting the number of traits found by each student and the quality of the responses.





