

ADVENTURES of the Center City Kids

Literacy Connection

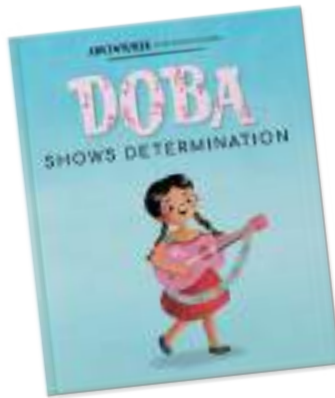
CHARACTER TRAITS



AVENUE  BOOKS™

Meet the Center City Kids!

Each Center City Kid is featured in their own book. The following nine books highlight and profile a story that is unique and personal to each character. These books allow you to get to know them and their families, understand their interests, and see how they overcome many obstacles. Which book would be your choice to explore this character trait packet with?



AVENUE  BOOKS™

Order the entire collection at flyfivesel.org/shop/AvenueA

©2023. Avenue A Books. All Rights Reserved.

Exploring Character Traits with the Center City Kids!

The purpose of this downloadable packet is to provide engaging activities to extend the learning of the Adventure Series read-aloud books. This Adventure Series Literacy Connection packet focuses specifically on developing a student's ability to understand and identify character traits of the Center City Kids, who are the main characters in the Adventure Series books. Each activity is unique and aligns with the Common Core State Standards for Literature for kindergarten through fourth grade. By completing the packet activities, students are reinforcing and practicing the following literacy skills:

- Reading comprehension
- Character analysis
- Text-to-self connection
- Critical thinking
- Vocabulary development

You can complete one activity or the entire packet. Review the Character Traits Activity Contents page to determine which activity is best for your child or student.

Character Traits

Character traits are often taught during literacy instruction using fictional texts like the Adventure Series.

What are they?

Character traits describe a character's personality. In essence, character traits tell us who the character is. These traits can be determined by the character's actions, behaviors, and emotions.

Why are they important?

Character traits are important to identify because they help students understand who a character is through their actions, words, emotions, and body language. This allows students to understand a character's motivation and analyze their actions within a story. Students can also make strong inferences (or informed guesses) based on their understanding of a character's personality or past actions.

Tips for helping your child or student practice this skill:

Stop and ask questions about the main character(s) when reading an Adventure Series read-aloud book, such as:

- How would you describe this character? What makes you think so?
- What do you think they meant when they said. . . ?
- How did that make them feel? Why?
- Why did they do that? Explain.

Activity Content

Activity 1:

Act It Out Character Theater

SEL Skill Objective:

Participate as a member of a group

Literacy Objective:

Identify the setting, characters, and main events of a story. Retell familiar stories through role-play

Academic Skills Alignment:

Creativity, Teamwork, Public Speaking

Activity 2:

Center City Kids Trading Cards

SEL Skill Objective:

Identify others' strengths and interests and recognize how they are similar and different

Literacy Objective:

Identify, describe, and compare character traits

Academic Skills Alignment:

Creativity, Collaboration, Communication

Activity 3:

How Well Do You Know the Center City Kids?

SEL Skill Objective:

Identify personality traits and interests of others

Literacy Objective:

Use information gained from stories to identify character traits

Academic Skills Alignment:

Problem-Solving, Following Directions, Attention to Detail

Activity 4:

My Favorite Character

SEL Skill Objective:

Display respectful interest and curiosity in others who are similar or different

Literacy Objective:

Analyze, compare, and write about characters featured in literature

Academic Skills Alignment:

Self-Awareness, Reflection, Decision-Making

Activity 5:

My Character: Five-Word Summary

SEL Skill Objective:

Identify personality traits of others

Literacy Objective:

Identify character traits for characters featured in literature

Academic Skills Alignment:

Decision-Making, Following Directions, Attention to Detail

Activity 6:

Similar and Different: A Character Comparison

SEL Skill Objective:

Display respectful interest and curiosity in others that are similar or different

Literacy Objective:

Compare and contrast the traits and experiences of characters within a story

Academic Skills Alignment:

Critical Thinking, Self-Awareness, Open-Mindedness

Activity 7:

All About My Character

SEL Skill Objective:

Identify and recognize personality traits in others

Literacy Objective:

Use illustrations and details in a story to identify character traits with supporting evidence

Academic Skills Alignment:

Critical Thinking, Problem-Solving, Thoroughness (or Follow-Through)

Activity 8:

A Touch of Color Needed

SEL Skill Objective:

Use coloring to make a personal connection to a fictional character

Academic Objective:

Use coloring to showcase knowledge and appreciation of diverse characters

Academic Skills Alignment:

Creativity, Adaptability, Innovation

Activity 1:

Act It Out Character Theater

SEL Skill Objective:

Participate as a member of a group

Literacy Objective:

Identify the setting, characters, and main events of a story. Retell familiar stories through role-play

Academic Skills Alignment:

Creativity, Teamwork, Public Speaking

Materials:

Glue/Tape, Popsicle/Wooden Sticks

Directions:

Cut out and glue each character on a popsicle/wooden stick to create puppets. Let your imagination shine. Use the puppets to act out stories from the Adventure Series books.

Feel free to make up your own stories and plays using the Center City Kids puppets.





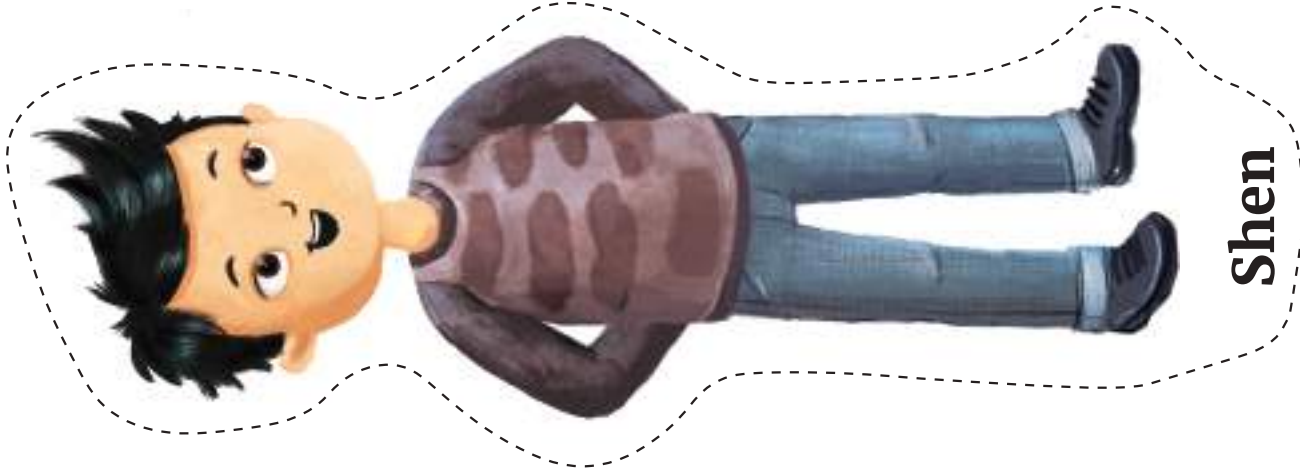
Doba



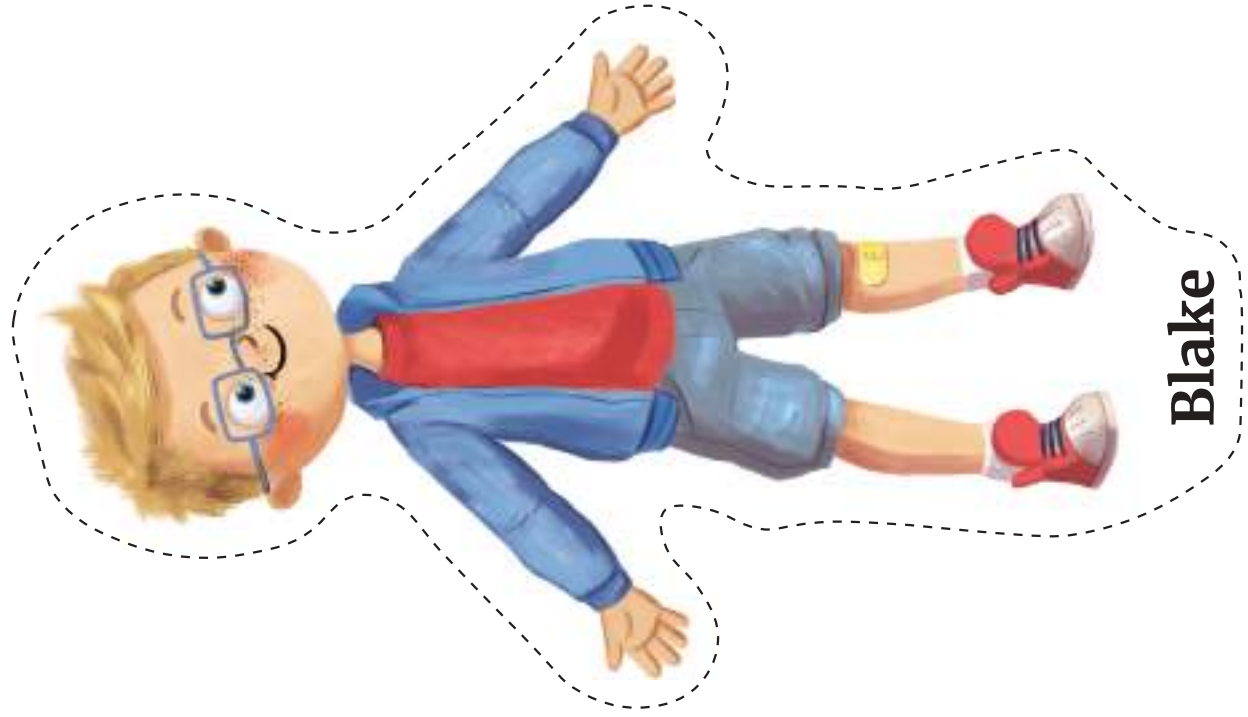
Anisa



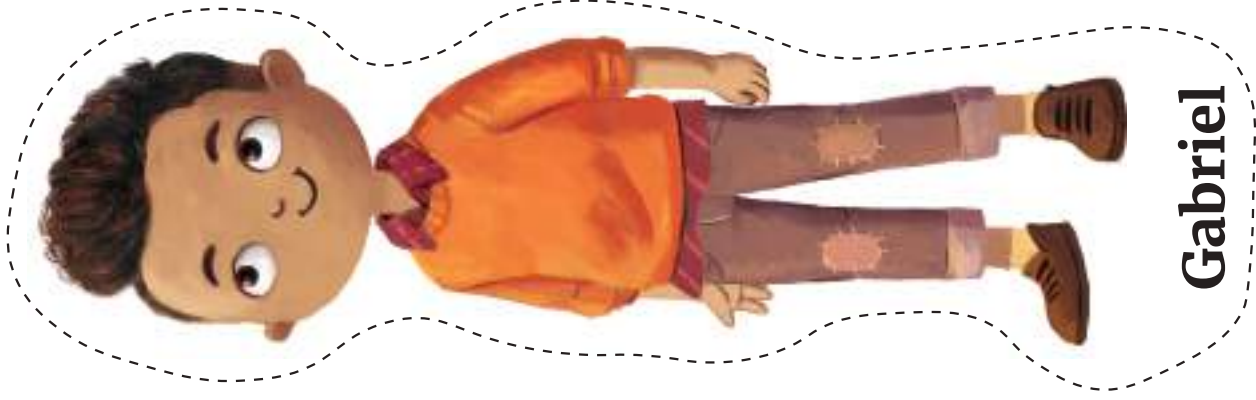
Kofi



Shen



Blake



Gabriel



Imani



Jade



Luna

Activity 2:

Center City Kids Trading Cards

SEL Skill Objective:

Identify others' strengths and interests and recognize how they are similar and different

Literacy Objective:

Identify, describe, and compare character traits

Academic Skills Alignment:

Creativity, Collaboration, Communication

Materials:

Scissors

Directions:

Print out the cards. You can use the cards in a number of ways including:

- Encouraging students to trade the cards among their peers
- Shuffling the character cards and using them to play a guessing game
- Categorizing the character cards into different piles based on shared similarities or differences
- Printing out a card set for each student and allowing them to use them as a reference, a memory device, or a scaffold for character activity sheets

Before reading one of the Adventure Series books, review the character cards of the characters featured in the book. This will help your student build background information on the featured characters.





Imani



Blake



Luna



Jade



Shen



Anisa



Gabriel



Doba



Kofi





Luna

Interests: Gymnastics, Sports, Extracurricular Clubs

Personality: Hardworking, Perfectionistic, Reliable

Strength: Responsible Student

Competency: Responsibility

Blake

Interests: Baseball, Skateboarding, Video Games

Personality: Funny, Friendly, Curious, Energetic

Strength: Risk-Taker

Competency: Assertiveness

Imani

Interests: Dancing, Singing, Acting, Rock Climbing, Zip-Lining

Personality: Adventurous, Dramatic, Confident

Strength: Performer

Competency: Assertiveness

Anisa

Interests: Journaling, Writing, Photography, Art

Personality: Friendly, Creative, Private, Dependable

Strength: Good Listener

Competency: Empathy

Shen

Interests: Fashion, Sewing, Tech Gadgets, Video Games, Volunteer Work

Personality: Positive, Imaginative, Caring, Loyal

Strength: People Person

Competency: Cooperation

Jade

Interests: Reading Comic Books and Fantasy Novels, Animals, Video Games

Personality: Shy, Quiet, Observant, Loyal

Strength: Animal Advocate

Competency: Self-Control

Kofi

Interests: Soccer, Sports, Math, Science (STEM), Academics

Personality: Confident, Motivated, Smart, Friendly

Strength: Natural Leader

Competency: Cooperation

Doba

Interests: Writing Songs, Playing Guitar, Music, Hiking, Outdoors/Nature

Personality: Adventurous, Caring, Passionate, Friendly

Strength: Trying New Things

Competency: Empathy

Gabriel

Interests: Art, Drawing, Painting, Writing, Graphic Novels, Comics

Personality: Creative, Private, Easygoing, Reflective

Strength: Talented Artist

Competency: Self-Control

Activity 3:

How Well Do You Know the Center City Kids?

SEL Skill Objective:

Identify personality traits and interests of others

Literacy Objective:

Use information gained from stories to identify character traits

Academic Skills Alignment:

Problem-Solving, Following Directions,
Attention to Detail

Materials:

Writing Utensil

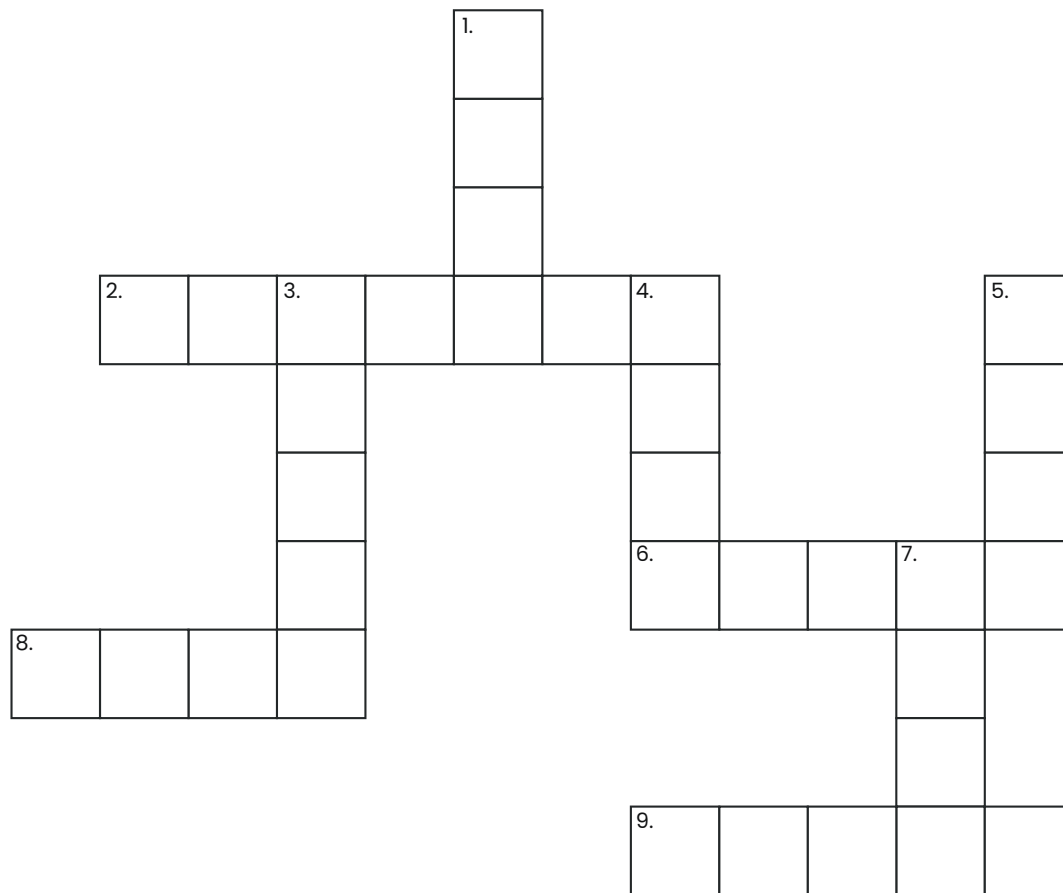
Directions:

Read each clue below and complete the crossword puzzle.

Use the Center City Kids trading cards to help complete the crossword puzzle.



Center City Kids Crossword



Word Bank

Anisa
 Blake
 Doba
 Gabriel
 Imani
 Jade
 Kofi
 Luna
 Shen

Across

2. Prefers a paintbrush to a pencil
6. Would rather write their thoughts down than speak them aloud
8. Would adopt every pet from the animal shelter, if allowed
9. Twins run in this person's family

Down

1. You will most likely find them on a soccer field
3. Often makes their friends laugh with silly jokes
4. Has a dog named Tuna
5. Prefers to be outdoors in nature and may write a song about it afterwards
7. Can sew and make their own clothing

Activity 4:

My Favorite Character

SEL Skill Objective:

Display respectful interest and curiosity in others who are similar or different

Literacy Objective:

Analyze, compare, and write about characters featured in literature

Academic Skills Alignment:

Self-Awareness, Reflection, Decision-Making

Materials:

Writing Utensil, Markers/Colored Pencils/Crayons

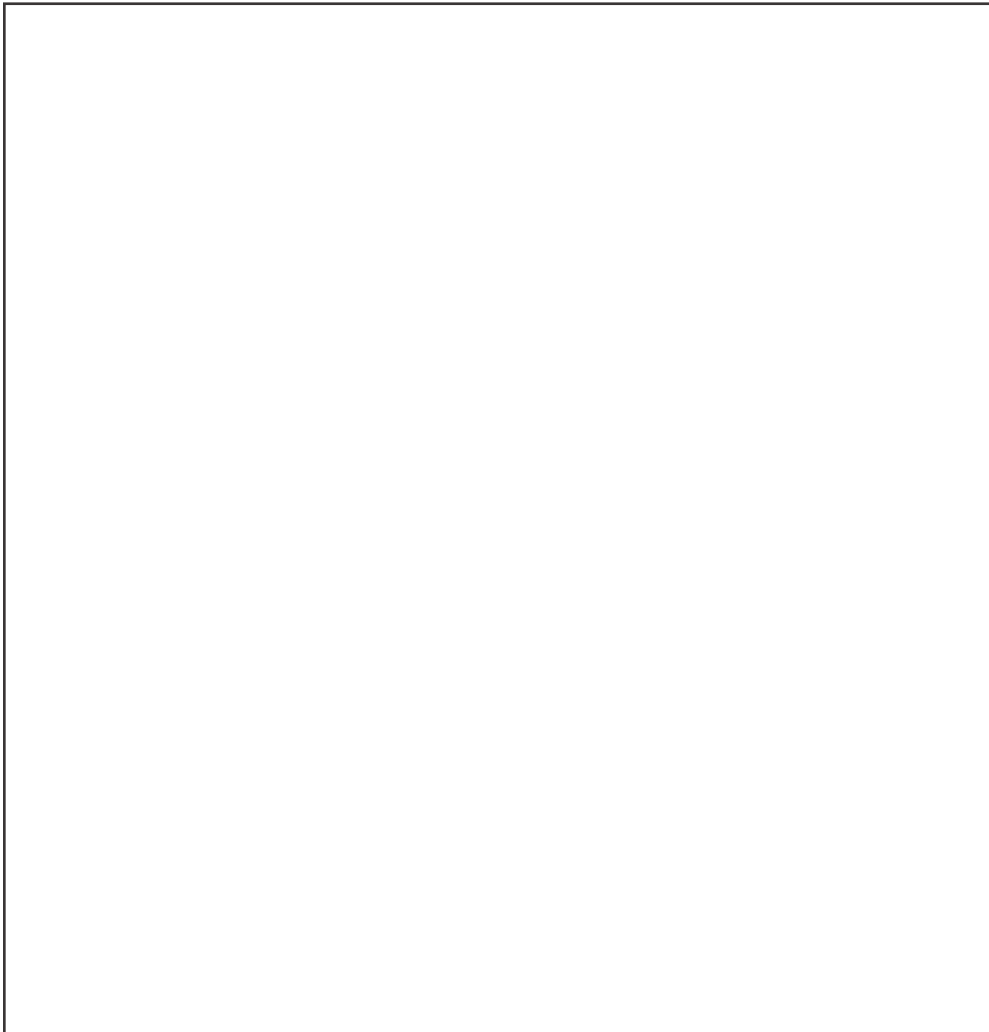
Directions:

Choose your favorite character from the Adventure Series. Draw your favorite character in the box, then complete each sentence below.

Refer to the Adventure Series books that feature your favorite character to help you complete this activity.



My Favorite Character



I like this character because:

One way I am similar to this character is:

One way I am different to this character is:

Think about the character you chose and the different traits that you listed above. If you had a choice, what new character traits would you give them? Explain.

Activity 5:

Five-Word Summary

SEL Skill Objective:

Identify personality traits of others

Literacy Objective:

Identify character traits for characters featured in literature

Academic Skills Alignment:

Decision-Making, Following Directions, Attention to Detail

Materials:

Writing Utensil

Directions:

Choose a character from the Adventure Series and draw them below. Then look at the word bank and choose five character traits that best describe them.

Use the Center City Kids trading cards to help you complete this activity.



My Favorite Character

Kind	Brave	Responsible	Honest	Patient
Assertive	Caring	Friendly	Playful	Funny
Quiet	Adventurous	Creative	Loyal	Confident

Activity 6:

Similar and Different: A Character Comparison

SEL Skill Objective:

Display respectful interest and curiosity in others that are similar or different

Literacy Objective:

Compare and contrast the traits and experiences of characters in a story

Academic Skills Alignment:

Critical Thinking, Self-Awareness, Open-Mindedness

Materials:

Writing Utensil

Directions:

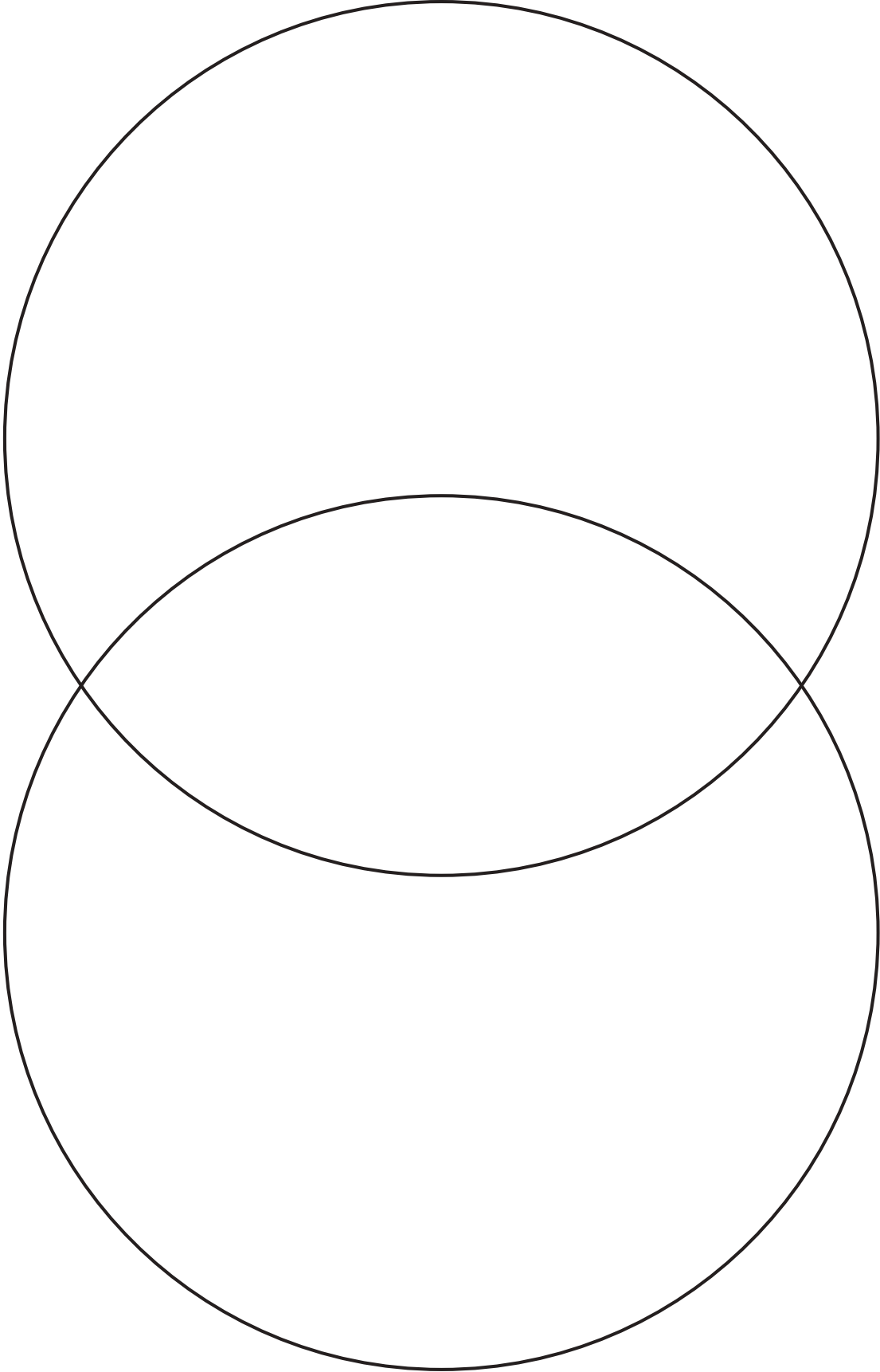
Think about your favorite book and Center City Kid. Use the Venn Diagram to list how you are alike and different from them.

As you look at the Venn Diagram, write your differences in the outer circles, and write your similarities in the middle circle.



My Name

Center City Kid



Activity 7:

All About My Character

SEL Skill Objective:

Identify and recognize personality traits in others

Literacy Objective:

Use illustrations and details in a story to identify character traits with supporting evidence

Academic Skills Alignment:

Critical Thinking, Problem-Solving, Thoroughness

Materials:

Writing Utensil

Directions:

Character traits are important to identify because they help students understand who a character is through their actions, words, emotions, and body language. Choose a Center City Kid and write three character traits they possess in the boxes. Then use evidence from the text to write or draw an example that supports each of the character traits.

Refer to other Adventure Series books that feature the character to help you identify more character traits.



Book Title: _____

Character: _____

Trait 1: _____	Trait 2: _____	Trait 3: _____
Evidence from text:	Evidence from text:	Evidence from text:

Activity 8:

A Touch of Color Needed

SEL Skill Objective:

Use coloring to make a personal connection to a fictional character

Literacy Objective:

Use coloring to showcase knowledge and appreciation of diverse characters

Academic Skills Alignment:

Creativity, Adaptability, Innovation

Materials:

Crayons/Colored Pencils/Markers

Directions:

Have fun, be creative, and color the character illustrations below.

Draw and color a background scene for each character coloring page.



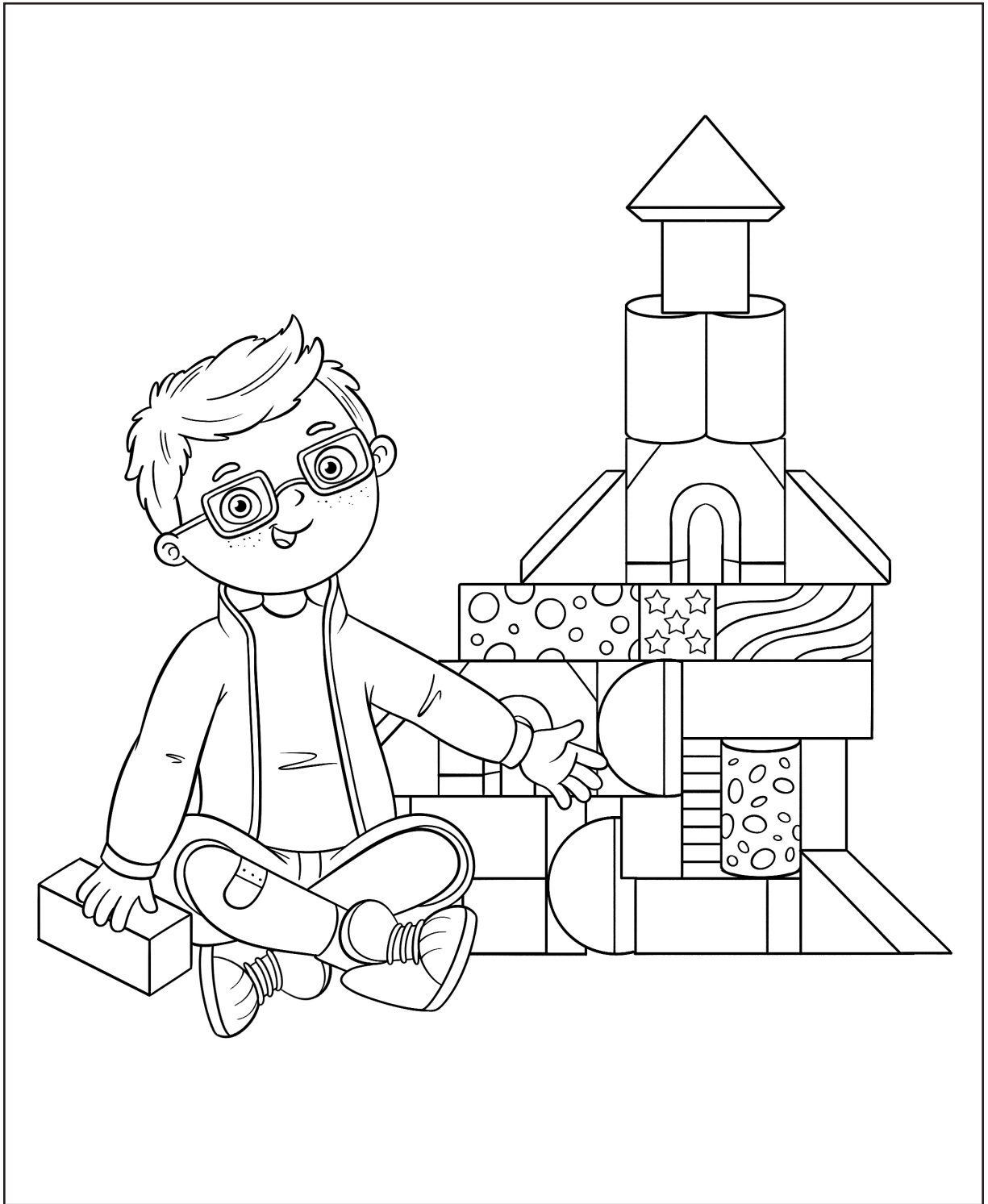
Hi! I'm Jade!



Hello, My Darlings! I'm Imani!



Hey Everyone! I'm Blake!



Razzle Dazzle! I'm Anisa!



Watch Out! I'm Kofi!



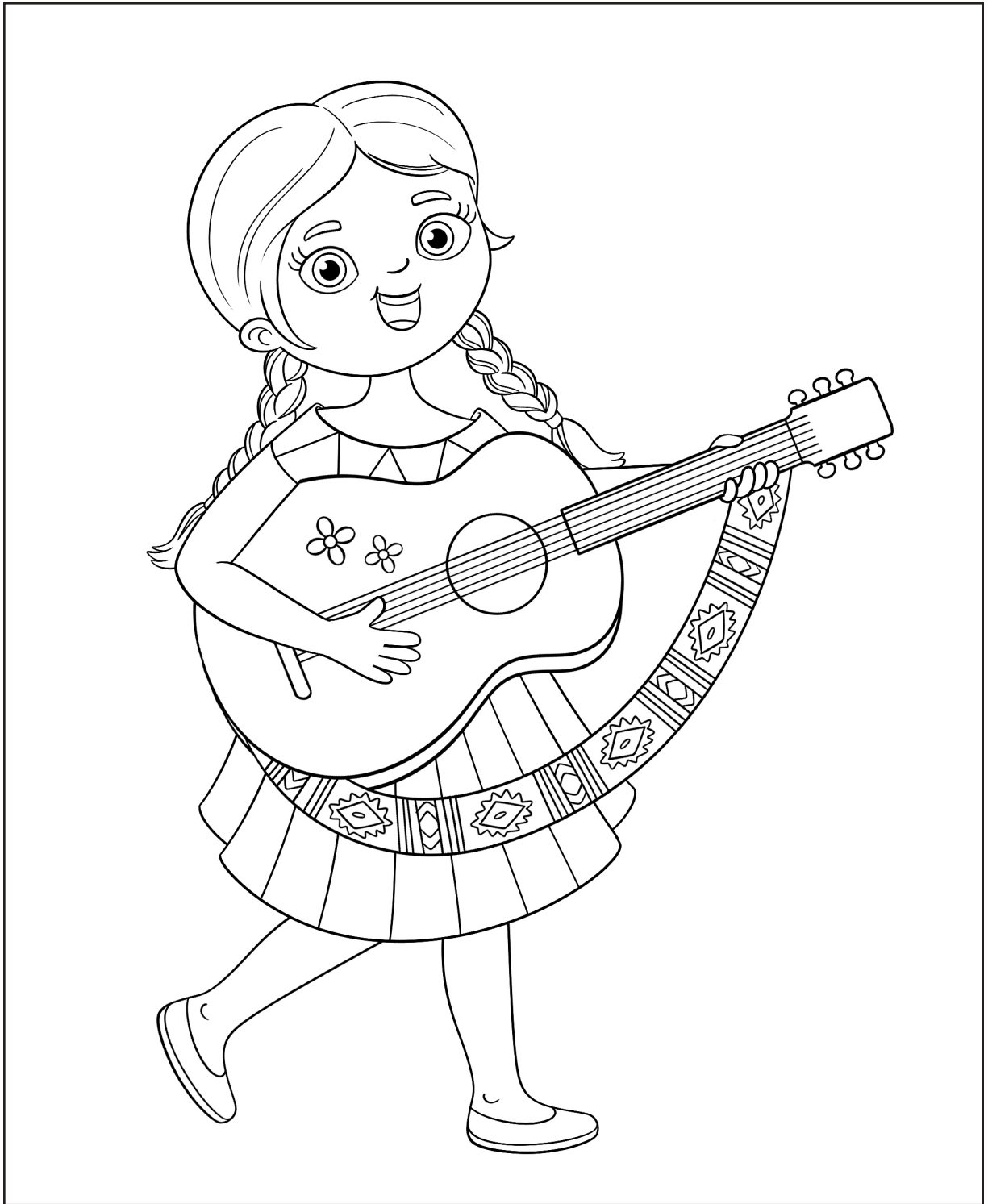
Let's Draw Together! I'm Gabriel!



Let's Play! I'm Shen!



Come Sing Along With Me! I'm Doba!



Hi Friends! I'm Luna!

