The Giving Tree

Character Traits Craft

A fun and meaningful craft that helps first graders identify character traits and find evidence in the story.

Perfect for literacy, reading response, and character study!

What's Included:

- Tree Trunk Template
- Writing Apple Templates (6)
- "My Best Evidence" Apple Template
- "Show What You Know!" Apple Template
- Boy Character Cutout
- Teacher Directions

Grow kindness. Grow learning.

Teacher Directions

The Giving Tree Character Traits Craft

Learning Objective

Students will:

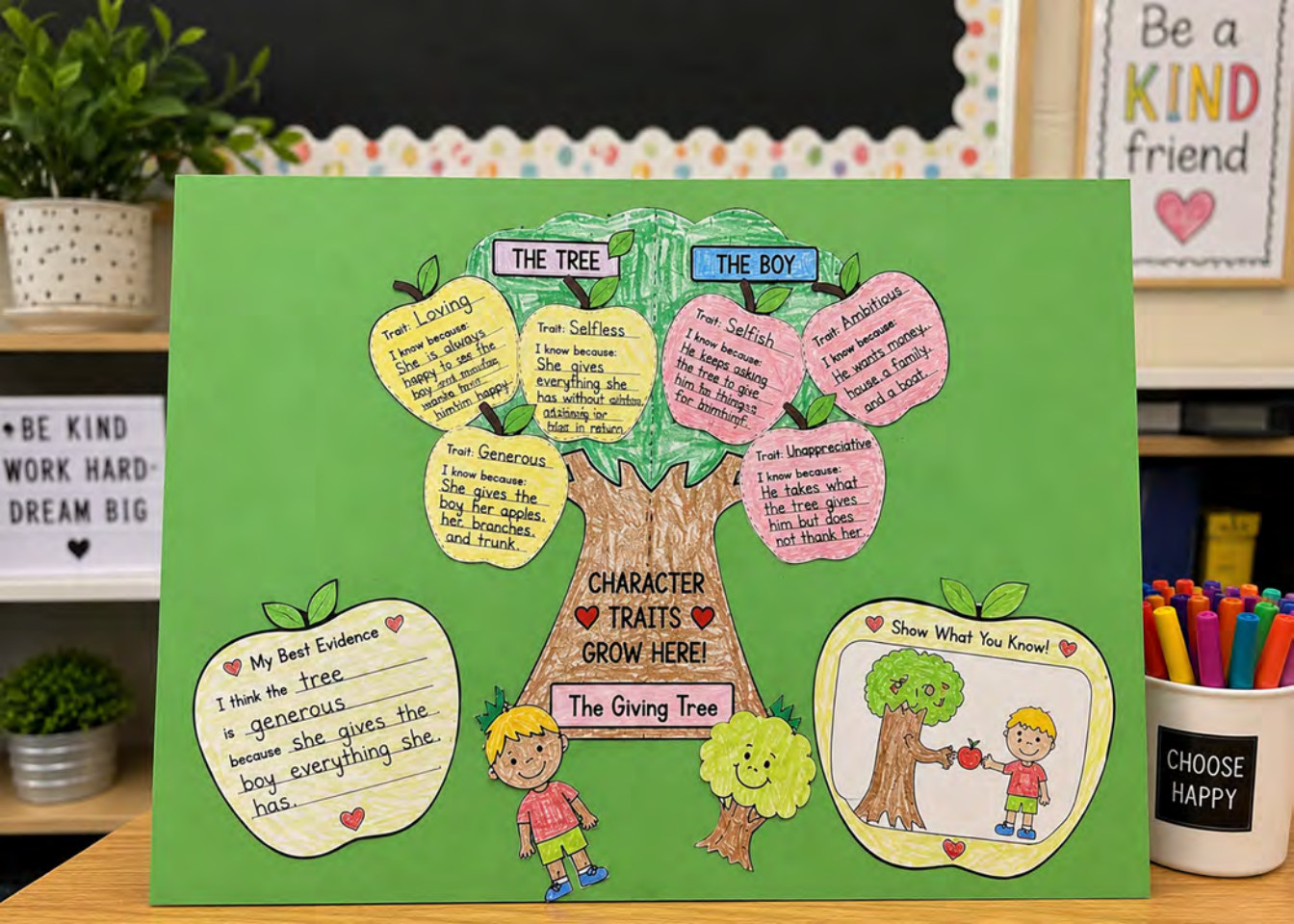
- *Identify character traits for the Tree and the Boy.*
- *Support each trait with evidence from the story.*
- *Write and illustrate their thinking.*
- *Share and explain their ideas with classmates.*

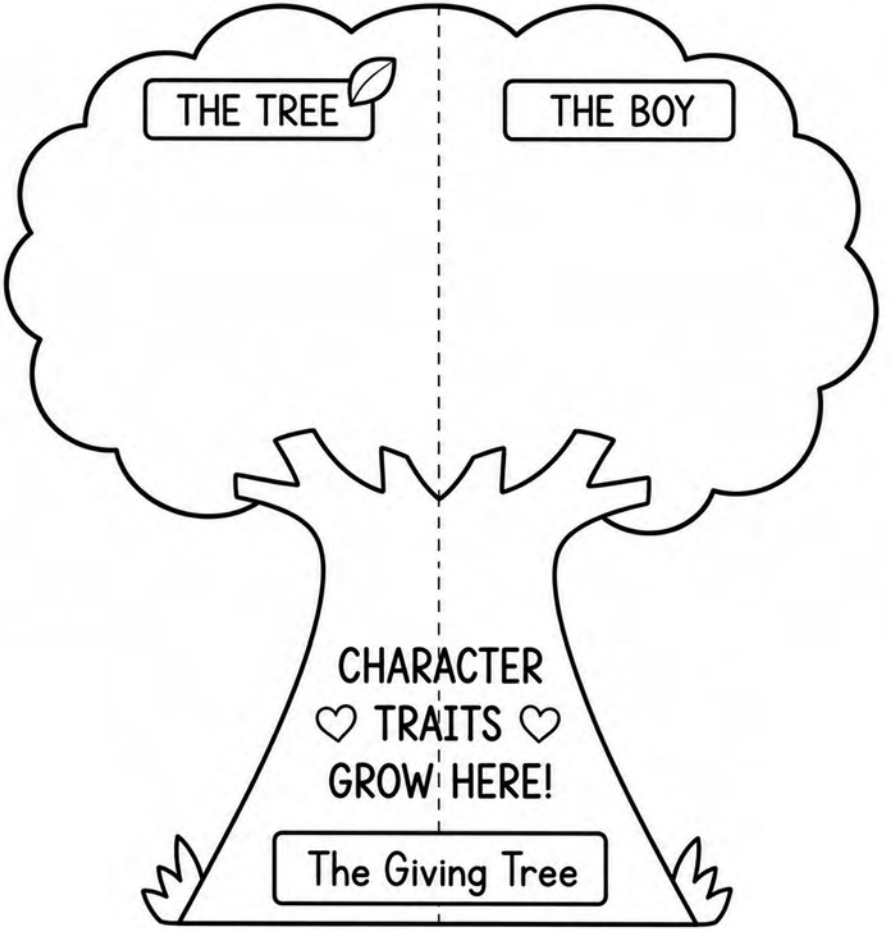
Materials

- *Craft templates*
- *Crayons / markers*
- *Scissors*
- *Glue*
- *Construction paper (for backing)*

1. **Read the Story** – *Read The Giving Tree and discuss the Tree and the Boy. Talk about what each character says, does, and feels.*
2. **Identify Traits** – Students choose three traits for the Tree and three traits for the Boy.
3. **Add Evidence** – On each apple, students complete "Trait: ___" and "I know because: ___" using an event or detail from the story.
4. **Best Evidence** – Students choose their strongest example and complete the "My Best Evidence" apple.
5. **Illustrate** – On the "Show What You Know!" apple, students draw a scene that demonstrates one of their chosen traits.
6. **Assemble** – *Color and cut out the pieces. Glue three apples on the Tree side and three on the Boy side. Add the remaining pieces around the tree.*
7. **Share** – *Have students share one trait and its supporting evidence with a partner or the class.*

Teacher Tip: Model one example together before students begin. Encourage the sentence stem: "I think the ___ is ___ because ___."


Be a KIND friend
BE KIND
WORK HARD
DREAM BIG
CHOOSE HAPPY
THE TREE
THE BOY
Trait: Loving
I know because: She is always happy to see the boy and would do anything to make him happy.
Trait: Selfless
I know because: She gives everything she has without asking for things in return.
Trait: Selfish
I know because: He keeps asking the tree to give him to things for himself.
Trait: Ambitious
I know because: He wants money, house, a family, and a boat.
Trait: Generous
I know because: She gives the boy her apples, her branches, and trunk.
Trait: Unappreciative
I know because: He takes what the tree gives him but does not thank her.
CHARACTER TRAITS GROW HERE!
The Giving Tree
My Best Evidence
I think the tree is generous because she gives the boy everything she has.
Show What You Know!


THE TREE
THE BOY
CHARACTER
♡ TRAITS ♡
GROW HERE!
The Giving Tree

Trait: _____

I know because:

_____

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Trait: _____

I know because:

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Trait: _____

I know because:

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Trait: _____

I know because:

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Trait: _____

I know because:

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Trait: _____

I know because:

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♡ My Best Evidence ♡

I think the _____

is _____

because _____

_____

_____

♡ Show What You Know! ♡

Directions:

1. Cut out all pieces.
2. Write and draw on the apples and boxes.
3. Assemble the tree.
4. Glue to the tree.