

Unique Characters: Pre K-2nd Grade

A RIF Guide for Educators

Themes: Special Powers, Superheroes, Fantasy, Science Fiction, Diversity, Inclusion

Book Brief: This guide is designed for use with books about characters with special powers or traits at the Pre K-2nd Grade reading level. Adapt the questions and activities in this guide to the book you are reading.

Content Connections: ELA, Health, Social Studies

Time To Read!

Before we read, let's look at...

The Cover: Based on the cover, including the title and any illustrations, what character or characters is this book mainly about? What makes those characters unique or special? Do these characters appear to have any special powers?

Prior Knowledge: Explain that this story contains characters that have special or different traits. What makes characters like this special or different from those around them?

Vocabulary: Identify 3-5 words that are likely to be new to your students and introduce them before you read this book with your class.

Purpose for Reading: It's important to be able to describe the characters in a book. As we read, note special or unique powers or character traits for each of the main characters.

While We Read

Monitoring Comprehension

- Retell this story, including important details.
- Describe the characters, settings, and events in this story, using details from both the words and the illustrations.
- What makes the main character(s) in this book unique?
- Do other characters have special traits or powers that make them different from each other and from the people in the world around them?
- Is the character trait that makes the character unique treated as a good thing, a bad thing, or neither?

Let's Think About

Our Purpose: How does the character's special power or unique ability help them in the story?

Extending Our Thinking: Think about what makes the character or characters in this story unique. Then think about a special skill or character trait that makes you unique. Make a tally chart of different skills and traits of the class. Discuss how those traits can help in special situations.