

# Making Your Characters Come to Life

1. **Identify all of the characters in your story.**

What are their names?

What role do they play?

2. **Select the primary characters.**

Why are these particular characters important to the story?

Could you tell the story without them?

3. **Choose one of the primary characters and study their personality.**

What is this character like?

What drives his/her behavior?

What matters to them and why?

4. **Decide how this character looks.**

Are they tall, short, fat, thin, old, young?

How do they walk? Move? Stand?

What facial expressions do they make?

Practice in front of the mirror.

5. **Decide how this character's voice sounds.**

Have fun with this... explore different voices. You can use voices you have heard in cartoons, movies, TV shows, members of your family.

6. **Write down and practice saying a line for that character that really shows their personality, what they are like.** You can make this up or copy it out of your story.