

Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Character Actions & Feelings

Read the short story and answer each question.



Mina and the Moonlight Challenge

In the quiet town of Larkwood, there was one rule every child knew: **never enter the garden during the full moon**. Strange things happened there—flowers glowed blue, shadows moved without wind, and whispers filled the air.

Mina didn't believe in any of that. She loved solving puzzles and proving people wrong. So, when the full moon rose and the garden gate creaked open, she stepped through.

At first, it was peaceful. Then, silver vines rose from the soil, curling around a stone archway. A voice echoed:

"To pass, show your cleverness. Solve the riddle: What has roots that no one sees, is taller than trees, and never grows?"

Mina smiled. She had read that one before. "A mountain," she said confidently.

The vines unwrapped.

Then came another riddle, harder than the last. And another. Mina felt nervous—but she kept thinking, breathing, solving. One by one, the riddles faded until the path cleared and the moonlight dimmed.

She stepped out of the garden at dawn, holding a silver token shaped like a leaf.

"I knew you'd come out," her brother said, waiting outside. "But I didn't think you'd win."

Mina grinned. "Sometimes the biggest challenge isn't danger—it's doubt."



Name: _____

Mina and the Moonlight Challenge

1. What trait helps Mina succeed in the garden?

- A. Strength
- B. Speed
- C. Intelligence
- D. Kindness

2. How do Mina's actions affect the outcome of the story?

- A. She gets lost and calls for help
- B. She ignores the riddles and runs
- C. She solves the riddles and clears the path
- D. She hides from the moonlight

3. Fill in the blank:

Mina faced a series of _____ in the moonlit garden.

4. How do Mina's character traits influence the events in the story? Use specific examples from the text.

5. Why is doubt described as the "biggest challenge" at the end? What does that reveal about Mina's journey?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: N

Lexile Level: 530L-680L

Grade Level: 3rd Grade, Beginning of the Year

Genre: Fantasy

Introducing the Text

"Today we'll read a fantasy story about a girl named Mina who enters a magical garden. As we read, we'll focus on what makes her a strong character and how her actions change the direction of the story."

Vocabulary: riddle, vines, archway, cleverness, doubt

Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. What do you think might happen in a magical garden during a full moon?
 2. Have you ever had to solve a tricky problem under pressure?
 3. What kinds of traits help someone succeed in a challenge?
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During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What do the silver vines do when Mina solves a riddle?
 2. How does Mina feel during the second and third riddles?
 3. What does she receive at the end of the story?
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After Reading Discussion Questions

1. What traits does Mina show throughout the story?
 2. How do her decisions shape the outcome of her adventure?
 3. What lesson do you think the author wants readers to learn from Mina?
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Activity Idea

Have students create their own **character challenge**. They write a short riddle or mental puzzle a fictional character might face, then describe the kind of person who could solve it (e.g., brave, kind, logical). Share and discuss how different characters' traits lead to different endings.

