

Examining Character Traits Using Character Mapping

Subject: Technology/Language Arts

Grade: 3-6

Time: 2 hours

Group: Whole/small group

Standards: NETS – Students 1a, 1b, 1b, 2a, 2b, 2c, 3a, 3b, 4a, 4b, 5a, 5b, 5c, 6a, 6b

Indicators: LCSD#1 Performance Indicators 3-5

Objective:

- Students will be introduced to SMART Ideas software
- Students will understand the importance of character development within stories.
- Students will develop a character map for a familiar story.
- Students share the character map with class.

Resources/Materials Needed:

- SMART Ideas Software or other graphic organizer software
- Computer
- Story that all students have heard/read.

Internet sites:

- <http://www.smarttech.com>

Activities/Procedures:

- **Discuss/Demonstrate:**
 - Examine the character traits of the chosen character.
 - Discuss with the students how of this information was learned. Was it directly stated in the book? Or, was the information inferred based on other information within the book?
 - Further discuss how character development is a key element in good stories.
 - Demonstrate the use of SMART Ideas with students using a familiar character from a book/story.
 - Safe Internet practices and correct citations for a research project.
 - Expectations of behavior with the computers.
- **Practice:**
 - Teacher and class will decide on character to be profiled.
 - Student use SMART Ideas to develop a graphic representation of their character and his/her/its traits.
 - Student will save the map to the building network.
 - Student will print a copy of this assignment.

Conclusion:

- Students can share their character maps with other students and discuss differences.
- Teacher will assess and grade. Did they correctly identify the traits of the characters? Did the student understand of inferred traits versus factual traits?

Closing:

- What was learned?
- What were the new skills used?
- How can these skills be implemented in future projects?