

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Character and Plot

- A **character** is a person or animal that takes part in the events of a story.
- The **plot** is the pattern of events in a story and includes (1) a problem or **conflict**, (2) **rising action**, as the conflict builds, (3) a **climax**, when the problem or conflict is faced, and (4) a **resolution**, when the problem or conflict is solved.

**Directions** Read the following passage. Then answer the questions below.

Larry was excited about lunch. For the first time, he had made his own triple-decker sandwich, just the way he liked it. Plus, his mom had added one of his favorite snacks to the bag. Usually Larry just gobbled up his sandwich at lunch and ran out to the playground. But not today—he was going to take his time.

When the lunch bell rang, he grabbed his bag and rushed to the cafeteria. He was so excited he didn't see the backpack someone had left on the floor. SPLAT! Larry tumbled to the floor, landing flat on his lunch bag. When he took his prized sandwich out, it was flat. But Larry didn't mind—he knew it would still be delicious!

1. Why was Larry excited about lunch?

2. How do you think Larry felt about making his own sandwich?

3. Why was Larry in such a hurry to get to the cafeteria?

4. What about Larry's character makes you think Larry didn't mind what happened to his sandwich?

5. On a separate sheet of paper, describe something that you did for yourself for the first time. How was that experience similar to Larry's?



**Home Activity** Your child analyzed character elements in a passage and answered questions about them. Tell your child a few things that have happened to you recently. Have your child explain how you probably felt about these events.