

## Language Arts Lesson: Exploring Character, Part 1

James and Z'Nia are the main characters. As a group, develop an “inside outline” for each one. To do this, draw the outline of a boy on a large sheet of paper – or use the images on this site. (Students may have their own copies.) Have students name physical characteristics of James (i.e., those that can be perceived through the senses – hair color, eye color, etc.) as well as typical actions (e.g., collects things). As students mention each one, write it outside the character's outline. (If students are using a worksheet copy, they can fill it in at the same time.) Then have students name characteristics that are internal (e.g., likes science, doesn't like fighting, etc.). These would be listed inside the character's outline. Repeat the process for Z'Nia (represented by a large footprint outline). Students could use their outlines to write character descriptions.