

Character Journal

Seedfolks, is all about how thirteen people who now live in Cleveland, Ohio came together for a common purpose.

KIM

In the retelling of the Kim portion of this story be sure to answer the following questions:

- Why did Kim stand before the family altar? Why was she sad?
- How would you describe the neighborhood in which Kim lived?
- Why did Kim plant the lima beans in the vacant lot?
- Why did Kim suffer from the cold in April?

Prompt: Prior to your retelling the story of Kim and answering the Questions, locate Vietnam on the classroom map and point it out to the rest of the class.

ANA

In the retelling of the Ana portion of this story be sure to answer the following questions:

1. What has happened to Ana's neighborhood since she came there as a child?
2. Why did Ana stay in her old neighborhood?
3. Why did Ana dig up Kim's bean seeds?
4. How did she feel when she realized what she had done?
5. Why do you think Ana bought binoculars?

Prompt: Prior to your retelling the story of Ana and answering the questions, locate Romania on the classroom map and point it out to the rest of the class.

WENDELL



In the retelling of the Wendell portion of this story be sure to answer the following questions:

1. How did the idea of a garden affect Wendell's personal life?
2. Why are Wendell and Ana important to one another?
3. Why might Wendell have brought a shovel home from work?

Prompt: Prior to your retelling the story of Wendell and answering the questions, locate Kentucky on the classroom map and point it out to the rest of the class.

GONZALO

In the retelling of the Gonzalo portion of this story be sure to answer the following questions:

1. What did Gonzalo mean when he said, "The older you are, the younger you get when you move to the United States?"
2. What caused Tio Juan to change "from a baby back into a man?"
3. Why was Gonzalo embarrassed by his father and his uncle?

Prompt: Prior to your retelling the story of Wendell and answering the questions, locate Guatemala on the classroom map and point it out to the rest of the class.

LEONA

In the retelling of the Leona portion of this story be sure to answer the following questions:

1. Why did Leona want to plant goldenrod?
2. How did the city officials react to Leona's telephone calls?
3. Why did Leona bring a bag of garbage from the lot to the Public Health Department?

Prompt: Prior to your retelling the story of Leona and answering the questions, locate Atlanta, Georgia on the classroom map and point it out to the rest of the class.

SAM

In the retelling of the Sam portion of this story be sure to answer the following questions:



1. What kind of work did Sam do before he retired?
2. Sam first compared the garden to Paradise, but at the end of the chapter said, "the garden was turning back into Cleveland." Why did Sam's feelings about the garden change?
3. How do you think Sam might promote better harmony among the gardeners?

Prompt: Prior to your retelling the story of Leona and answering the questions, locate Puerto Rico on the classroom map and point it out to the rest of the class.

VIRGIL

In the retelling of the Virgil portion of this story be sure to answer the following questions:

1. Why did Virgil's father lie to Miss Fleck? How did Miss Fleck respond to the lie?
2. Why did the lettuce crop fail? What lesson might be learned from that failure?
3. A symbol in literature is an object, event, or person that represents an idea or a set of ideas. What do you think the locket that Virgil found might symbolize?

Prompt: Prior to your retelling the story of Leona and answering the questions, locate Haiti on the classroom map and point it out to the rest of the class.

SAE YOUNG

In the retelling of the Sae Young portion of this story be sure to answer the following questions:

1. Why did Sae Young become afraid of people?
2. How did working in the garden help Sae Young overcome her fear?
3. Philanthropy is giving of your time, talent, or treasures for the benefit of others. Based on that definition, was Sae Young's donation of the funnels a philanthropic act?

Prompt: Prior to your retelling the story of Sae Young and answering the questions, locate Korea on the classroom map and point it out to the rest of the class.

CURTIS

In the retelling of the Curtis portion of this story be sure to answer the following questions:



1. Why did Curtis appear so interested in his physical conditioning?
2. Why did Curtis plant tomatoes in the lot?
3. How did Curtis and Royce help each other?

Prompt: Prior to your retelling the story of Curtis and answering the questions, locate Cleveland, Ohio on the classroom map and point it out to the rest of the class.

NORA

In the retelling of the Nora portion of this story be sure to answer the following questions:

1. Why did Mr Myles not ever talk to Nora even though she was his caretaker?
2. Why did Nora consider Mr. Myles's work in the garden "a mind altering drug"?
3. How did Myles and Nora become an accepted part of the Gibb Street gardening community?

Prompt: Prior to your retelling the story of Nora and answering the questions, locate England on the classroom map and point it out to the rest of the class.

MARICELA

In the retelling of the Maricela portion of this story be sure to answer the following questions:

1. Why did Maricela feel like an outcast?
2. What evidence showed that Maricela was beginning to appreciate the garden?

Prompt: Prior to your retelling the story of Maricela and answering the questions, locate Mexico on the classroom map and point it out to the rest of the class.

AMIR

In the retelling of the Amir portion of this story be sure to answer the following questions:

1. Why was Amir critical of America?
2. How did the garden change Amir's perception of America?



Prompt: Prior to your retelling the story of Maricela and answering the questions, locate India on the classroom map and point it out to the rest of the class.

FLORENCE

In the retelling of the Florence portion of this story be sure to answer the following questions:

1. What did Florence mean by "seedfolks?"
2. Why did Florence think that Spring was a special season?

Prompt: Prior to your retelling the story of Florence and answering the questions, locate Colorado on the classroom map and point it out to the rest of the class.

