

A Walk in the Park with Your Character

NOTE TO TEACHERS: All questions asked throughout this exercise are rhetorical. The students should not offer vocal answers, but can have vocal reactions to the things that they see or experience as they are in character. Be sure to leave enough time between directions for the students to act and re-act to the things they encounter on the walk, and feel free to toss in some suggestions of your own.

Teacher reads the following:

You take a look out your window and it is a sunny autumn day, so you decide to go for a walk. You put on whatever you will need for your walk. Maybe you put on a jacket, maybe you put on a scarf and mitts, it's up to you.

Do you have a pet that you are going to take with you on the walk? If so, now is the time to get him or her ready.

You step out the door and the sun is warm and the air is crisp. You walk towards your mail box and check to see if there is anything there for you? You look through the mail, if there was anything. Are you going to take it with you on your walk?

You continue walking towards the park.

Here you are at the entrance to the park. You notice that someone has thrown their used coffee cup on the ground. You pick it up and try to toss it in the garbage when you notice that there is gum stuck to the bottom of it and it is now stuck between your fingers. You try to get it off, but it is really stuck on there.

You decide to forget about it and walk into the park.

You don't get very far before you see an old friend (choose another student in the class to greet), so you stop and say hello. You shake their hand, and realize that you still have gum on your fingers and you are now stuck to your friend. You try to pull your hands apart, but you are stuck together. You work together to become unstuck.

You say good-bye to your pal and keep walking.

You come across some little girls playing hopscotch. Do you play with them? Do you chase them away so you can play all by yourself? Do you ignore them? Do you walk right through the middle of their game?

You keep walking on the trail until you arrive at your favorite bench. It is located right by the pond that you love, so you decide to sit, but wait a second! Someone else got to your bench before you did! Who is it? A child? An elderly person? Someone your age? Someone you know? Someone you like? Someone you would like to know?

What do you do? Do you ask them if you can join them? Do you yell at them until they get out of your seat? Do you just find another bench to sit on?

Once you are sitting take out the snack that you had stashed away. It is your favorite snack! Bite into it, close your eyes and enjoy the peace and the sunshine....

Splash!

The kids playing in the park on the other side of the pond threw their ball into the water and the pond water has splashed all over you, you are drenched. How do you re-act? Do you laugh? Cry? Chase the kids?

You hear a crack of thunder overhead. The wind starts to pick up. The once sunny sky has clouded over.

You decide that it is time to head home, so you gather up all of your stuff and walk away.

The rain is really starting to come down now.

As you are walking you step in a mud puddle and it eats your shoe. What do you do? Do you try to get it back? Do you hop home instead?

Once you've decided what to do about the shoe, you make a break for home. Are you running now? Have you stopped to dance in the rain? Do you try to protect your head?

It's pouring buckets when you finally arrive at your door. You notice something is wrong. What else could have possibly gone wrong on this simple walk through the park?

You forgot the key.

The End.