



## Module Two

# Handout: Introduction to creating characters

When the reader reads, they are empathising with and connecting with your main character. They experience the story through the character's point of view. Everything your character feels and experiences, your reader feels too. When your character transforms, so does your reader.

Our job as writers is to create a character that our readers can connect with and care about. If our reader doesn't care what happens to the character, why would they bother reading the story?

Your goals for this module are to:

- explore and brainstorm characters for your picture book story
- try and see the world through your character's eyes
- try to capture your character's voice
- try to capture your character's feeling
- create strong, motivated characters with agency.

Let yourself play and frolic, explore and dream. It's important to let the character emerge. Don't force them - they will come! Sometimes when you least expect them. Trust your characters. Develop your characters. Get to know your characters. Feel your characters.

Story will inevitably follow. But more on that next month ...

