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Teacher's Guide
Culmination Week
Unit 10 • Week 31

This is a one-week excerpt from the Starfall Kindergarten Teacher's Guide.

If you have questions or comments, please contact us.

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Culmination Week

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Week 31

Culmination Week 904

Step 1

Choose Favorite Starfall Character 904

Step 2

Assign Groups to Characters 904

Step 3

Character Books 905

Step 4

Characters' Favorite Activities 905

Step 5

Plan Snacks for Character Presentations 905

Step 6

Plan Character Presentations 906

Step 7

Character Presentations 906

Week 31: Culmination Week

Week 31 is a celebration of the Starfall characters. Ideas and suggestions for the celebration are listed. You may use them or you may choose to create your own celebration week. The lessons detailed below are meant to span the week.

Divide the children into 6 groups. Each group will choose or be assigned to one of the Starfall characters. They will work as groups to create displays and presentations related to their characters. Consider inviting another class to join the character presentations and celebration.

At the end of the week distribute the *Reading & Writing Book* page “Super Star Award” to each child. The children should write their names and illustrate themselves in the space provided. As they are working to complete the awards, add your signature to the bottom.

Step One Choose Favorite Starfall Characters

Indicate the plush characters and explain that this week will be a celebration of the Starfall characters. Distribute *Reading & Writing Books* and the children turn to page 63. Identify each character and the missing illustration. Explain that the children will illustrate themselves in the “Me” box.

The children think about each character and choose their favorites. On the board write: “My favorite Starfall friend is _____.” The children copy the sentence stem then complete the sentence by copying their favorite character’s name in the blank.

Materials

- Reading & Writing Books*, page 63
- Pencils
- Plush Characters: Zac, Peg, Tin Man, Mox, Gus, Backpack Bear

Step Two Assign Groups to Characters

Say: **Each child will be assigned one of the Starfall characters. Would you like to sign up for your favorite character or have your name drawn from the basket?**

Depending on the class choice, the children either choose their characters or draw names. (Assign a number limit for each character based on the number of children in your class.) The children print their names under the name of their assigned character on the chart.

Materials

- Plush Characters: Zac, Peg, Tin Man, Mox, Gus, Backpack Bear
- Chart paper, marker
- Basket with names (optional)

Step Three *Character Books*

Place one character on each table (or in each work area) and combine all of the related books in a common space.

Gather the children together and explain that each group will work together to select all of the books about its character. They find the books in the common space and return with them to their tables.

The children discuss the books at their tables. If time allows, they find additional books in the classroom library that they think their characters would like, and bring them to their tables.

Materials

- Chart paper list of groups
- 6 tables or work areas
- Plush Characters: Zac, Peg, Tin Man, Mox, Gus, Backpack Bear
- Related books for all characters—Zac: *Zac the Rat, Zac and Cat, Zac Camps*; Peg: *the Hen, Peg Helps Zac, Peg's Egg, Hen, Peg Goes Places*, etc.

Step Four *Characters' Favorite Activities*

Indicate the character posters and explain that each group will decorate its poster with illustrations that show favorite activities and foods of its assigned character.

- Distribute drawing/writing paper, markers, pencils, and crayons. The children work at their tables to illustrate their characters doing something they think that character would like to do.
- The children cut out their completed illustrations and glue them to their character's poster.

Materials

- Large poster board for each character labeled with the character's name in the center
- Drawing paper, markers, pencils, crayons
- Scissors, glue stick

Step Five *Plan Snacks for Character Presentations*

Say: **At the end of the week we will invite (name of class) to come to our classroom to celebrate with us. Each group will tell our friends about its character and we will share a special snack. Today, let's make a list of foods you think your character would like to eat. For example, I think that Zac might like cheese!**

Partner the children to discuss food items they think their characters would enjoy.

Gather the children together around the chart paper. Volunteers share their ideas of possible food items their characters might like. Remind them that the food items must be easy to prepare. List their food items on the chart under the corresponding character's name.

Materials

- Chart paper list
- Marker



Step Six Plan Character Presentations

Gather the children together and explain that they will work with their groups to decide which book each of them would like to present to the visiting class, and what each child might tell the visitors about their character.

The children gather at their character tables to discuss what information they will present to the visitors.

Materials

- 6 tables with characters, books, and poster

Step Seven Character Presentations

Consider having each group practice its presentation to the class prior to presenting to the visiting class.

On the day of the celebration, have the food items/containers ready for the children to display at their tables.

The food items can be in large containers. Have smaller containers (such as cupcake liners, small paper cups, coffee filters, small paper plates, etc.) available for serving.

The children wash or sanitize their hands and work in their groups to fill the smaller containers with food from the larger containers. Each group should have portions for themselves and the visitors. The food containers should be placed on the table with the character, books, and poster.

When the visitors arrive, you or a child explains that your class is celebrating the characters that have helped them learn so much this year.

Invite each group of visitors to move to one of the presenters' tables. The kindergarten children make their presentations. When the guests have had a chance to visit each table, they can choose what foods they would like and take it to a common area. Your children can choose food from their tables and join their guests for a snack.

Materials

- 6 tables with characters, books, and poster
- Food in large containers and smaller containers for serving

