

# SMART™ Lesson

## Understanding Character Motivation

Understanding a character's motivation can be important when reading a story. Motivation is what causes the character to act or behave a certain way. It helps us understand why a character does what he or she does in the story.

### Examples of character motivation:

- A character may be motivated by love or a desire to be loved.
- A character may be motivated by fear.
- A character may be motivated by a desire for power.
- A character may be motivated by a need for revenge.

### Questions:

1. What is character motivation?
2. Why is understanding character motivation important in reading?
3. What are some examples of character motivation?
4. Can a character have more than one motivation in a story?