

# **Classroom Activities**

**Based on *The Spaniel Family Goes to the State Fair***

To the Librarian and/or Teachers:

*The Spaniel Family Goes to the State Fair* is a story about three dogs that go to the State Fair of Texas, but there is more to this story. It is also a story about character traits, and specifically the traits of leadership, sharing, and teamwork. These worksheets are for you to utilize in the library/classroom along with the Spaniel Family book.

There are three sections to the worksheets. Section one contains a simple definition of each character trait along with an example from the book.

Section two is a match test for second grade. Students have to match quotes from the book to its corresponding trait.

Section three contains exercises. The exercises will get your K-2 students to think beyond the book. The second grade will be able to utilize their writing skills to answer the questions.

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## **Section 1 – Character Trait Definitions**

### **Leadership**

Definition: Being a good example for everyone else to follow.

Example from the Spaniel Family story:

Joe said, “It’s Fair time and we need to go!”

### **Sharing**

Definition: Including others in your activities.

Example from the Spaniel Family story:

They shared their treats with each other so they could try all the different, fun, Fair foods.

### **Teamwork**

Definition: Working together for a common goal.

Example from the Spaniel Family story:

Joe and Daisy took turns pulling Maggie in the wagon.

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## Section 2 – Character Traits Match Game For Second Grade

Each of three character traits listed on the left side of the page is assigned a letter. A = Leadership, B = Sharing and C = Teamwork. Quotes from the book *The Spaniel Family Goes to the State Fair*, are on the right side of the page. Read the quotes and choose the trait or traits that best describes the quote (in some of these there is more than one trait being utilized). Circle the corresponding letters. Good Luck!

**A. Leadership**

**B. Sharing**

**C. Teamwork**

- A B C Joe replied, “It’s Fair time and we need to go!”
- A B C Joe and Daisy took turns pulling Maggie in the wagon.
- A B C When they would reach the top of a hill, Maggie would invite Joe and Daisy to ride with her.
- A B C Daisy spotted some sheepdogs herding into the Fair and told Joe and Maggie, “I know let’s follow them.”
- A B C Maggie proposed they all meet in three hours at the line for the Ferris wheel.
- A B C They shared their treats with each other so they could all try the different, fun, Fair foods.
- A B C Joe was the first to wake up. He nudged his sisters with his nose and said, “We’re missing all the fun! Come on, let’s go ride the Ferris wheel.”
- A B C The three pups rode the big wheel with twin girls named Polly and Molly.
- A B C Joe started to sing, and this time, Daisy and Maggie joined in.
- A B C The Spaniels were heard all around the park as they left, and many fairgoers stopped and smiled and joined in the signing of Joe’s song.

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## Section 3- Exercises by Grade Level

### Kindergarten

Discuss ways your students can share.

Discuss the five senses of see, touch, taste, hear, and smell. Then have the students tell you what they saw, touched, tasted, heard, and smelled in the State Fair Book.

Make copies of the dogs in the wagon coloring sheet found on the website([www.gospaniels.com](http://www.gospaniels.com)) under fun and games. While the students are coloring discuss who the Spaniel family could share a ride with and where they might go on their next adventure.

### First Grade

**Ask...What could you share and with whom?**

Have the students fill in the blanks of this sentence.

I can share a \_\_\_\_\_ with\_\_\_\_\_.

**Ask... Why is sharing good?**

**Ask... Do you know someone who is a good leader?**

The leadership in the State Fair book was shared. Joe led first by signing the song and convincing his sister dogs to go with him to the Fair. Daisy led when she discovered the loose board in the fence and Maggie led when they arrived at the Fair and suggested they meet somewhere later.

**Ask... Do you think you could be a good leader? Could you share your leadership with someone?**

Play follow the leader utilizing different students miming good deeds and have the remainder of the students guess the good deed. Discuss proper library etiquette (shelving books, quiet voices, and proper care of books).

**Ask...When did the Spaniel family team up in the story?**

Discuss how your class can team up to do something for your school or community.

**Here is a fun art activity for **first** and **second** grade that emphasizes characters and characterization.**

Have the students bring an old clean sock. Then take felt in various colors, buttons, thread, yarn, and glue to create sock puppets of the student's favorite characters from the books they are reading. Have a puppet show where the students can act out what their favorite character would do and say.

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## Second Grade

### Character Traits Questions

How can you be a leader?

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What could you share, and whom would you share it with?

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Where could you use teamwork? How can you be a good team player?

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