

Grade 6 / Week 5

Standards Covered this Week

- LAFS.6.L.3.4.a:** Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 6 reading and content, by using context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word's position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.
- LAFS.6.RI.1.2:** Determine a central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details.
- LAFS.6.RL.1.2:** Determine a theme of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details.
- LAFS.6.W.1.3:** Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.

Name

Teacher: Mazyck

A Note to Parents

For the next five weeks, your student will be working through a unit entitled “Embracing Our Differences.” The unit will focus on understanding a character’s perspective and comparing the experiences of characters across texts. This week, your student will first explore his or her own personality and perspective, will learn how fables were used to teach values or morals to children, and will write a new fable to teach a lesson that relates to his or her personality traits.

Here are some online resources to support or extend your student’s thinking:

- Online version of “How Well Do You Know... You?” - <https://choices.scholastic.com/issues/2017-18/100117/how-well-do-you-know-you.html>
- How to read someone else’s DISC style - <https://youtu.be/AJkbTpd9ZvA> (Pick three people you think you know the best and use the resources to determine their personality trait. Have them take the quiz and compare results.)
- Online version of “The Farmer and the Viper” - <https://www.commonlit.org/en/texts/the-farmer-and-the-viper>
- A live-action retelling of the fable - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yIhDAeLAHFU&feature=youtu.be>
- Get ideas for your own by reading more of Aesop’s Fables - <http://www.read.gov/aesop/001.html>
- Watch a theatrical production of “The Lion and the Mouse” by the Brooklyn Children’s Theatre - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EfQsHz6OUTY>

Day 1, Activity 1: Introduction to Vocabulary

Step 1: Review the vocabulary word, context sentence, picture, and definition.

Step 2: Describe how the context sentence and photograph give hints toward the meaning of the word. Be specific; you must include either specific words from the context sentence or details from the photograph in your answer.

1. **Confront**

They're kind and helpful, they're not bossy or confrontational, and they go along with whatever the group wants.

Definition: to meet, face, or stand up to boldly

Explanation of Context: _____



1 Sherry had to confront her boss about the unsafe working conditions he required.

2. **Compassion**

The world would be a nicer place if everyone were as compassionate and thoughtful as you.

Definition: a feeling of sharing another's suffering that leads to a desire to help

Explanation of Context: _____



2 JJ showed Lexi compassion when Lexi skinned her knee on the playground.

3. **Accommodating**

She can be accommodating to the point of putting other people first—like, “Oh, I actually wanted to go to the mall, but if everybody else wants to see a movie, we can do that.”

Definition: willing to help or please

Explanation of Context: _____



3 Sam and Sally were very accommodating. They always helped their grandma with yardwork.

Day 1, Activity 2: What's Your Personality?

In this unit, you will explore other people's perspectives and appreciate diversity in personality and background. However, first, you must dig into your own personality and traits. So, are you a dove? An eagle? A parrot? Or an owl? In the next pages, you will take a quiz, determine your personality type, and then respond in a brief journal your thoughts about the results.



How Well Do You Know...You?

Are you an assertive “eagle”? A social “parrot”? This fun—and surprisingly accurate!—quiz will help you identify the personality traits that make you special.

OCTOBER 2017

By ANDREA BARTZ • Illustrations by JASON RAISCH • Scholastic CHOICES Magazine

You could spend hours taking quizzes to find out which Disney villain is your soulmate or which reality star would play you in a movie. But how well do you really know your own personality? It’s a question scientists were asking long before BuzzFeed quizzes were a thing—because understanding who you are and how you interact with the world makes life better.

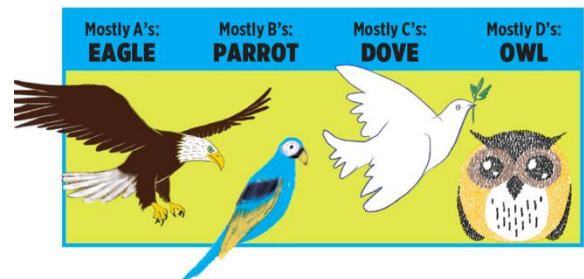
We teamed up with Merrick Rosenberg, an expert on the DISC personality test—a 90-year-old system for figuring out your personality type—to bring you a quiz that’ll actually benefit you day to day. Once you learn your own type, you’ll understand exactly what makes you so unique and awesome, and you’ll be able to figure out how to better interact with others.

“Your personality type plays out in everything you do,” says Rosenberg. “Learning your style will lead you to what you enjoy and what energizes you.” Ready to improve your life? Take our quiz to get started.

QUIZ

Find the 15 words that best describe you. Then figure out which column has the most words to determine your personality type.

A	B	C	D
<input type="checkbox"/> Assertive	<input type="checkbox"/> Enthusiastic	<input type="checkbox"/> Thoughtful	<input type="checkbox"/> Rational
<input type="checkbox"/> Direct	<input type="checkbox"/> Social	<input type="checkbox"/> Loyal	<input type="checkbox"/> Thorough
<input type="checkbox"/> Blunt	<input type="checkbox"/> Funny	<input type="checkbox"/> Cooperative	<input type="checkbox"/> Disciplined
<input type="checkbox"/> Pioneering	<input type="checkbox"/> Persuasive	<input type="checkbox"/> Patient	<input type="checkbox"/> Logical
<input type="checkbox"/> Confident	<input type="checkbox"/> Chatty	<input type="checkbox"/> Helpful	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair
<input type="checkbox"/> Determined	<input type="checkbox"/> Impulsive	<input type="checkbox"/> Easygoing	<input type="checkbox"/> Controlled
<input type="checkbox"/> Impatient	<input type="checkbox"/> Lively	<input type="checkbox"/> Supportive	<input type="checkbox"/> Cautious
<input type="checkbox"/> Competitive	<input type="checkbox"/> Optimistic	<input type="checkbox"/> Accommodating	<input type="checkbox"/> Analytical
<input type="checkbox"/> Decisive	<input type="checkbox"/> Energetic	<input type="checkbox"/> Laid-back	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepared
<input type="checkbox"/> Bold	<input type="checkbox"/> Imaginative	<input type="checkbox"/> Considerate	<input type="checkbox"/> Accurate



I Am an Eagle

You’re self-assured and fearless—and people love to follow your lead!

Notable Habits:

- Organizing everyone’s duties for a group project
- Taking charge when the teacher gives the class a timed challenge

Natural Environment: Leading a student council meeting

Call of the Wild: “Everyone knows what they’re doing before the presentation on Thursday, right?”

What Makes Eagles Amazing:

Every group needs a leader, and whether you’re the captain of the soccer team or in charge of a group assignment, that leader is you. You can take the reins in an emergency, and people admire your directness and great ideas.





4 Famous Parrot:
Michelle Obama

“Eagles like to win, and they speak with confidence,” Rosenberg says. “Of course, sometimes that directness can come off wrong: If you’re willing to say anything back to a teacher, she might think, ‘Who are you to speak to me that way?!’”

A similar thing can happen when you talk to peers: You think you’re just talking, but to a sensitive kid, it sounds like you’re being harsh.

“Being a leader is a special superpower—and it can have a positive impact or a negative impact on projects and other people,” says psychologist Lucie Hemmen. Think about leaders that you liked and didn’t like. Was your coach critical? Patient? Intimidating? Noticing what makes a poor or a great leader helps you think about how you should behave next time you’re in a group, Hemmen says.

I Am a Parrot

You’re the life of the party, and you can always get a crowd laughing.

Notable Habits:

- Giving a rowdy and hilarious pep talk before a big game
- Getting side-eye from the teacher for talking in class

Natural Environment: Up onstage emceeing the Battle of the Bands

Call of the Wild: “Duh, of course I’m coming to the party tonight!”

What Makes Parrots Amazing:

Parrots are chatty and fun, so they tend to have many friends from different groups. Consider yourself lucky—not everyone has an easy time getting along with people. They also tend to live in the moment, so spontaneous stuff (an invite to watch a football game) trumps important but less-social things (a school project or practicing piano). And, because they’re crazy optimistic, they tend to be risk-takers: “My son’s a parrot and a skateboarder, so I’ve spent nights in the hospital with him because there’s no trick he won’t try,” Rosenberg says.

Luckily, there’s one cool skill you can learn that’ll solve both your time-management issues and the tendency to try dangerous stuff: the pause button. “Before you commit to anything social, hit pause and ask yourself if this is a good idea,” Hemmen says. “Did you promise your mom that you’d walk the dog after school? Be honest and hold yourself accountable.” It takes a while to get into the habit, but the more you practice, the easier it becomes. (As a visual cue, you might even draw the pause sign—two vertical lines—on your hand or on a Post-it note.)



5 Famous Parrot:
Lady Gaga

I Am an Owl

You’re careful, thorough, and always putting that mind to work—at Hogwarts, you’d definitely be a Ravenclaw.

Notable Habits:

- Having a ton of knowledge about a single topic, like Star Wars or the NFL
- Being the last person to hand in a test

Natural Environment:

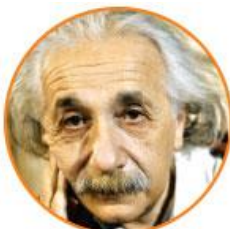
The band room or art studio, staying late to get that solo or painting just right

Call of the Wild: “Let’s go over this one more time.”

What Makes Owls Amazing:

Smarty, you’re all about taking your time, thinking carefully about what you’re doing, and working hard to get everything—a paper, a routine in tap class—exactly right. Many kids love having you in their group, because they know you’ll make sure every I is dotted and every T is crossed!

The only problem with that? “Perfectionism is a real joy-killer, because you’re always looking for what you didn’t do well,” Hemmen says. “The reality is sometimes you’re going to fall short, and that can lead to anxiety.”



6 Famous Owl:
Albert Einstein

Enlist your parents' help in taming the perfectionism beast. You could say to them, "I know I keep talking about that big physics final, but please don't ask me about it this week, since it'll stress me out," Hemmen suggests. You can also ask a teacher to help you make a plan of attack for studying (say, flash cards for two nights, and then swapping a practice test with a buddy the night before), so that you'll see—in writing—what you can do to prepare and what's not under your control.

I Am a Dove

You're calm, kind, and super easygoing. No wonder your friends adore you!

Notable Habits:

- Listening whenever a buddy needs to vent
- Diffusing the situation when someone is about to snap

Natural Environment: A basement rec room with a close friend or two

Call of the Wild: "If anyone gets stuck while working on this assignment tonight, text me—I'm here to help!"

What Makes Doves Amazing:

"Doves are the kind of kid everybody likes," Rosenberg says. "They're kind and helpful, they're not bossy or confrontational, and they go along with whatever the group wants." Give yourself a pat on the back:

The world would be a nicer place if everyone were as compassionate and thoughtful as you.

If anyone's ever called you "too nice," though, you know the potential problem with being so laid-back and easygoing. "Doves can be accommodating to the point of putting other people first—like, 'Oh, I actually wanted to go to the mall, but if everybody else wants to see a movie, we can do that,'" Rosenberg says. "To a dove, simply being assertive feels like you're being aggressive, so it's tough to make your needs heard."



7 Famous Dove:
Ed Sheeran

Reality check: Your friends totally want to go along with your wishes too! "I encourage doves to notice when they're feeling anxious in a relationship, because that's a sign they're not getting their needs met," Hemmen says.

Whenever you feel a tightening in your gut or chest, ask yourself: What am I thinking but not saying? Then say it! "You can practice on other people first," Hemmen adds—like politely speaking up to the barista when your order is wrong, or asking a teacher to explain her reasons for your paper's meh grade. "Giving yourself that challenge helps teach you that it's totally OK to voice your needs."

I Must Be a . . . Parrotowleagle!

So you don't fit neatly into one type? That's great!

"We all have shades of all four personality types, and the most successful people know how to bring out different traits depending on the situation—like a chameleon."

—Merrick Rosenberg, personality expert

And remember: No one type is better than the others; the world needs all kinds. Be grateful that your class is packed with a whole range of birds—not dozens of carbon copies!



Journal Entry: What were the results of the quiz? Do you agree with what the article said about your habits, environment, and how you interact with other people? Why or why not?

Day 2, Activity 1: Personality Practice

Have someone in your family take the quiz from yesterday. Determine their personality type, and compare it to yours. How do your differing personality types affect your relationship?

Day 2, Activity 2: Learning from Fables

The fable you are about to read is one of the famed Aesop's Fables. No one knows for sure, but some stories describe Aesop to be a slave in Ancient Greece who eventually became an advisor to kings. Fables tend to be short, fictional stories that often involve animals and end with a "moral" or lesson to the story. Read the below fable. When you are done, **paraphrase** the moral of the story by putting it in your own words.

The Farmer and the Viper

By Aesop
620-560 BCE

Aesop was a storyteller who lived in ancient Greece between 620 and 560 BCE. This story is part of his collection of tales known as "Aesop's Fables," which did not survive in writing but were passed down by people retelling them. They have deeply influenced children's literature and modern storytelling culture. As you read, note the language used to describe the snake and the farmer.

[1] One winter a Farmer found a Viper frozen and numb with cold, and out of pity picked it up and placed it in his bosom.¹ The Viper was no sooner revived² by the warmth than it turned upon its benefactor³ and inflicted⁴ a fatal bite upon him; and as the poor man lay dying, he cried, "I have only got what I deserved, for taking compassion⁵ on so villainous a creature."

Kindness is thrown away upon the evil.

1. an old-fashioned word for chest
2. **Revive (verb)**: to restore life, strength, or consciousness
3. someone who helps or supports another
4. **Inflict (verb)**: to cause something unpleasant or painful to another person
5. **Compassion (noun)**: concern or sympathy for someone else's suffering



"Snake" by I for Detail is licensed under CC BY 2.0

Day 3, Activity 1: Answering Text-Dependent Questions

Text-Dependent Questions

Directions: For the following questions, choose the best answer or respond in complete sentences.

1. Which of the following statements best describes the actions of the viper and the farmer?
 - A. The man helps the viper out of fear.
 - B. The viper bites the man out of fear.
 - C. The viper bites the man out of instinct.
 - D. The man helps the viper out of love for all God's creatures.

2. PART A: Which of the following statements best describes the central theme of this fable?
 - A. Good deeds are rarely rewarded.
 - B. People should not put themselves in danger to help the untrustworthy.
 - C. We betray those who help us because we know they will forgive us.
 - D. The needy are often dangerous and should not be helped.

3. PART B: Which phrase from the text best supports the answer to Part A?
 - A. "out of pity picked it up and placed it in his bosom." (Paragraph 1)
 - B. "The Viper was no sooner revived by the warmth" (Paragraph 1)
 - C. "I have only got what I deserved" (Paragraph 1)
 - D. "Kindness is thrown away upon the evil." (Paragraph 2)

4. What purpose does the following quote serve? "I have only got what I deserved, for taking compassion on so villainous a creature."
 - A. It reveals the moral of the story.
 - B. It makes the reader pity the man.
 - C. It makes the story funny because it is unexpected.
 - D. It makes the snake seem less evil.

5. How is the viper characterized in contrast to the farmer? Provide examples from the text in your answer.

Have you ever showed kindness upon someone only to feel betrayed in the end? Why do you think that person did not repay your kindness?

Day 4, Activity 1: Application of Vocabulary

Answer each question in 1-2 complete sentences. Make sure that you use the underlined vocabulary word in your answer.

1. When is the last time someone showed you compassion? How did they show it?

2. What do you think is the best way a teacher can deal with a confrontational student?

3. If you were helping someone with a broken leg move around school, what are some ways you could be accommodating?

Day 4, Activity 2: Lessons from Your Personality Animal

Think back to your personality test from day 1 and one of the animals that represented a large part of your personality. Look back through the description of that personality trait and brainstorm a valuable lesson you could apply to a fable. Write the lesson or moral, in simple words, here.

Day 5: Your Own Fable

Today, you will be writing a fable that teaches the lesson you identified yesterday. Remember that fables are short stories with a simple plot that end with a moral (a lesson or theme)