

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Characters, Metaphors & Similes **Creative Reading & Writing with Roald Dahl Series**

Vocabulary:

Define the following key terms:

comparisons, exaggeration, hyperbole, characters, metaphors, similes, hero, heroine

Pre-Viewing Questions:

- 1) Who is your favorite Roald Dahl character? What do you like about this character? Describe the character's physical appearance, personality, etc.
- 2) Write similes and metaphors to describe the people in the pictures provided by your teacher.

Post-Viewing Questions:

- 1) Where did Roald Dahl write his books? What materials did Dahl use to write? When did he write? Describe Roald Dahl's working environment. Under what conditions do you work best? Where do you like to do your homework?
- 2) What kinds of characters are found in all of Roald Dahl's books? Give some examples of his "evil" characters. What do all of his "evil" characters have in common? Give some examples of his "good" characters. What do all of his "good" characters have in common? Why is it important to have both "evil" and "good" characters? Can you think of any books that have only "evil" characters? Can you think of any books that have only "good" characters?
- 3) How did Roald Dahl make his characters interesting? How can you exaggerate a character's appearance? How can you exaggerate a character's personality?
- 4) How did Roald Dahl come up with his characters? Who inspired the Big Friendly Giant in the BFG? What traits of this man did Dahl exaggerate when he wrote the BFG?

Additional Activities:

- 1) Create a character and write a descriptive paragraph introducing the character. Consider the character's appearance, actions, speech, and voice along with how others view them and how they treat others. You may want to bring some pictures or magazines to class for inspiration. Once you have completed your paragraph, trade papers with a partner. Read your partner's description and draw a picture of the character. Display the descriptions and illustrations together in class.
- 2) As a classroom activity, compare several characters of Roald Dahl's books. You may choose to compare "good" or "evil" characters. Discuss each character's appearance, actions, speech, and voice. What makes each character special?