

IDENTITY & SELF-ACCEPTANCE | WEEK 1

WELCOME & WHO YOU ARE

Leaders, as you prepare for your first week with students please pray for Intermediate Company. We invite you to create an environment of safety - mentally, physically and emotionally for everyone. By learning students names; you are familiar with them before they arrive. By being in your small group space and set up, you are inviting your students to a place where they can choose to engage and not be overwhelmed by social interactions, eye contact etc.

Creating a safe place isn't something that happens in one week. It takes time for students to learn how to trust you and the other group members. Trust is an investment. It's something that we have to mutually earn. And while we can't promise that it'll happen immediately, we can promise that these three strategies will help to guide you towards it.

LEAD THE GROUP

Be a facilitator, an observer and encourager.

RESPECT THE PROCESS

Rely on training and content provided, and welcome and accept where students are at.

GUARD THE HEART

Leading a small group takes work; guarding the heart takes effort. And although we're building trust, at times this trust must be broken for safety reasons. In groups, your'e giving students opportunity to grow and learn. Where they are accepted, ideas are safe and honesty is valued. So model those things.

Celebrate everyone equally. Shut down gossip. Address individual issues privately.

LEADERS GOAL

Learn as much as possible about each student and help them to learn about you & others.

EXPECTATIONS & BEHAVIOURS

Ensure students are aware of what the expectations are, why we follow them.

ACTIVITIES

Simba Can't Wait To Be King
The Prideland Relay
Name Chain
Prideland Hunt

PRAY

Introduce what this is, who we are speaking to & lead

SUPPLIES

- Silhouette of Lion King character on bristol board
- Markers
- Two props (animal head piece or hand puppet) for Pride Land Relay
- Small slips of paper in shape of leaves with silly challenges (for prideland hunt)
- Bible app on iPad
- Create welcoming space by engaging with students as they arrive

BOTTOM LINE

Who I am matters—and it's worth celebrating.



AS STUDENTS ARRIVE

Introduce self and learn students' name as they enter space.

Introduce each student by name to each other as they arrive.

Learn everything you can about who they are, where they come from, who they live with, what's important to them, what school looks like, favorite food or candy, ways to relax.

Students write their names on the moon as small group leader randomly writes or draws information about students, on or around moon.

STORY CONNECTION

In the Lion King, Simba is next in line to hold the throne. He might be working on his roar because he can't wait to be king, and he has a lot to learn about who he is and who he is meant to become.

TRUTH & TREASURE

We also have a lot to learn about who we are, and who God created us to be. At K2K, we believe and celebrate that God is the one true God. We will take time here in our small group to learn more about who God is and how much He loves you and me.

We rely on the Bible to teach us. The Bible is full of stories, letters, and poems that help us learn more about God and His Son, Jesus. The Bible also shares many names for God that help us understand and know who God is. We'll explore these names for God in our small group time. The Bible also helps us understand how He made us unique in our interests and abilities.

We'll also dive into the Lion King script and themes of identity, betrayal, second chances, courage, and friendship.

OUR STORIES

- What brought you to K2K? How did you know about it?
- What about K2K are you most excited for this year?
- Do you have any questions or concerns about K2K?

K2K BASICS & EXPECTATIONS...

At K2K, you matter, and we want to get to know you! The real and authentic you is important to us. At K2K, you can be yourself. What matters most to us is who you are, not what you can do.

We expect a few things from you in how we treat one another:



K2K BASICS & EXPECTATIONS CONTINUED

- Most importantly, it is to treat one another the way you want to be treated.
- Encourage each other
- Choose to be honest
- Participate, play, and learn with cooperation and kindness. Be respectful.
- One person speaks at a time.

See the full list of expectations Backstage here <https://k2kproductions.ca/rules-of-conduct>

Is there anything missing here that's important to you?

We value this space so much that we set up boundaries to keep K2K a safe and special place for everyone. If you are not able to treat others, the furniture, this building, or your leaders with respect, you will receive a warning. After two warnings, we will pause what we're doing to speak with K2K Staff. At that time, you will be given a choice, and if the behaviour does not change, we may ask you to step back from attending K2K.

DISCOVERY TIME

Game | Pride Land Hunt

Supplies: Small leaves with different 'find someone who' statements on them.

Hide the leaves around the room.

First, students race to find a leaf and then to find a peer who fits the description. Have that peer sign their name on the leaf. Give the students a few minutes to collect leaves (one at a time) and find people to match the descriptions until all leaves have been found. Have students share some of the things they've learned at the end.

Game | The Pride Land Relay

Supplies: Two props (animal head piece or animal hand puppet)

Split into two teams. Line up at one end of small group space. Small Group Leader stands on the other end of the space with the two props by their feet, and gives students a question.

The first two players run to the small group answer, hold up their prop high in the air and answer a get-to-know you question ("What's your favorite rainy day activity?"), then run back.

Continue this way so all students get to answer a question.



Game | Name Chain

This game helps students learn each other's names by the end of Small Group time. Begin with one student and go around the circle with each student repeating previous names in a growing sequence.

Game | Simba Can't Wait to be King

Students sit in a circle. One student is Simba and sits blindfolded in the middle. Someone in the circle says "Simba can't wait to be king!" and makes a silly sound or says a fun fact about themselves ("I love pineapple on pizza!").

Simba has one guess to figure out who said it. If Simba guesses right, students swap spots. If not, Simba stays and gets another try.

PRAYER

We like to end our small group time with a prayer to God.

Prayer is talking to God and listening to Him just like talking and listening to your best friend. God hears us when you talk to Him. You may want to close your eyes while we pray, or sit with your eyes open, or hands out. It's your choice.

Let's pray.

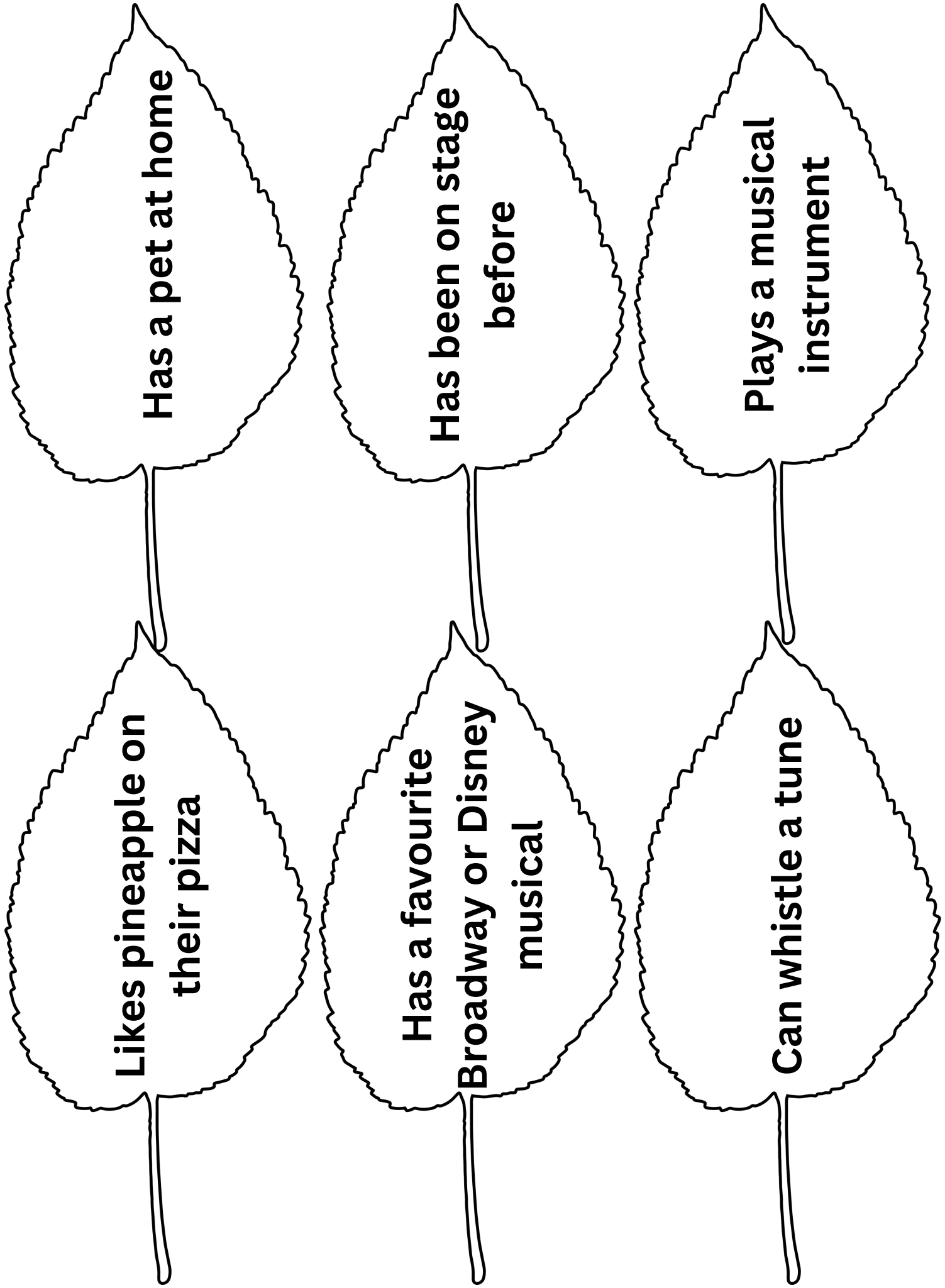
Dear God, thank you for bringing us all together today. Some of us are excited to be here and some of us are not really sure. Please help us feel welcome, seen, and heard at K2K. Help us to be kind, patient, and understanding with each other. We are excited for K2K, this show, and getting to know each other better. Amen.

WEEKLY CHALLENGE

Your Lion King script will be given out at the end of the night during sign out. We will end each Small Group time with a challenge. Your challenge this week is to start reading your Lion King script. What characters are you drawn to or can you relate to the most? I look forward to you sharing this with us at the start of next week's Small Group time.

Please put your script in a binder when you get home. Bring your script, indoor shoes, dance shoes, and labelled water bottle with you each time you come to K2K.





Likes pineapple on
their pizza

Has a pet at home

Has a favourite
Broadway or Disney
musical

Has been on stage
before

Plays a musical
instrument

Can whistle a tune

Loves to dance in their
room when no one's
watching

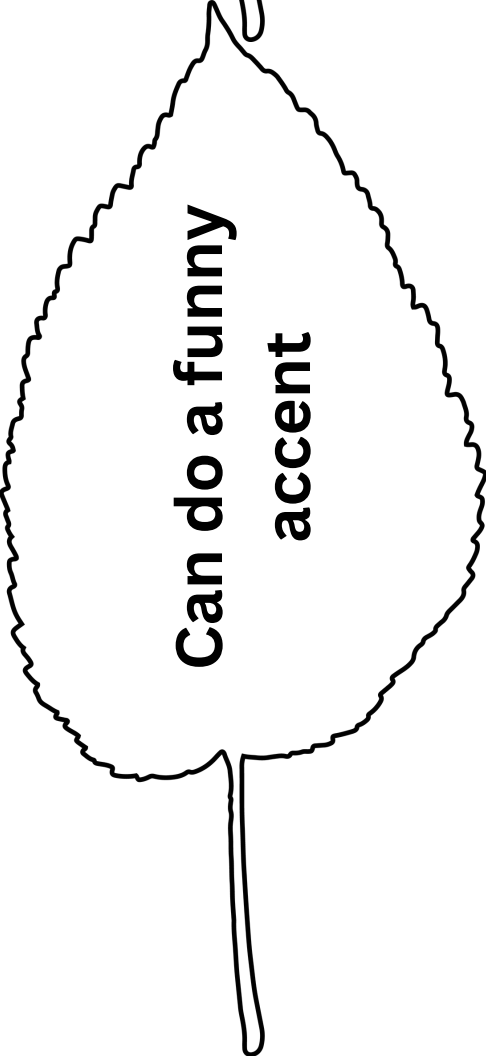
Can do a cartwheel
or handstand

Has the same
favorite color as
you

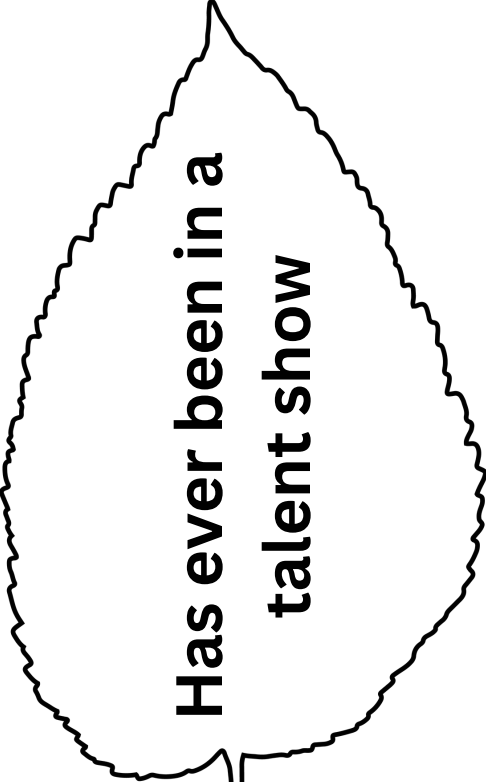
Has memorized a
Bible verse
recently

Shares the same
birthday month as
you

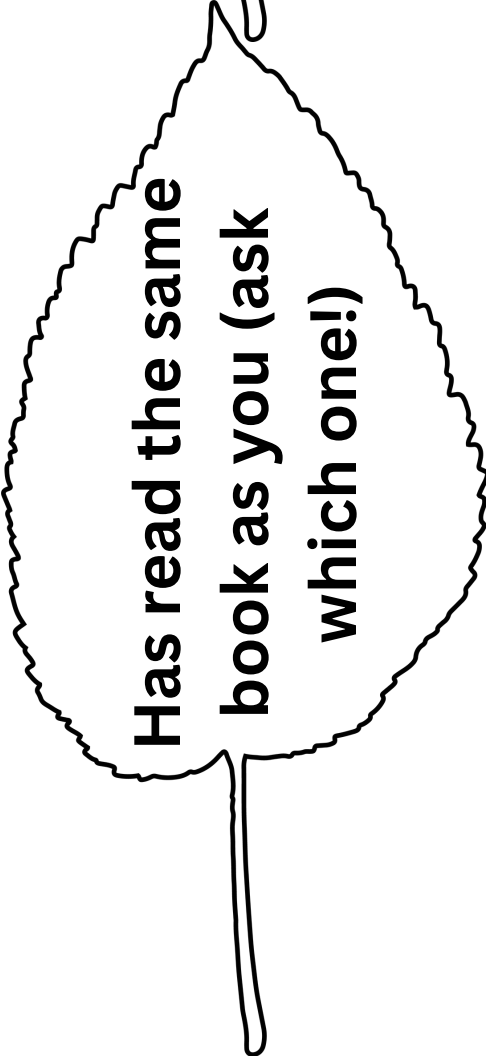
Can sing the chorus
of a song right now



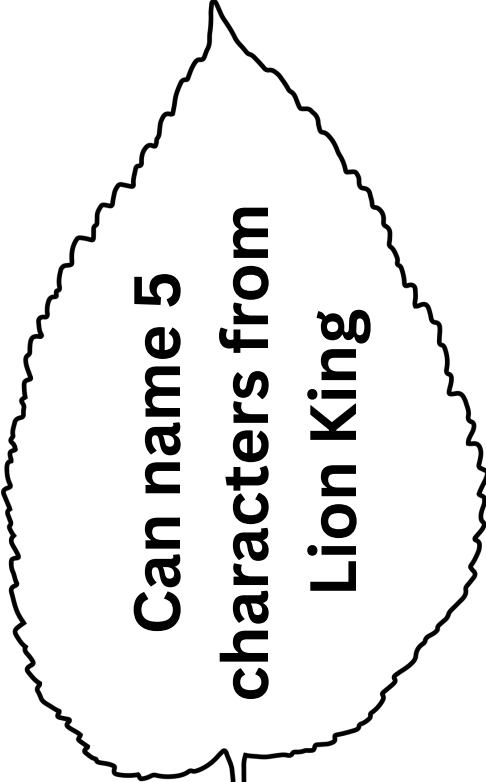
**Can do a funny
accent**



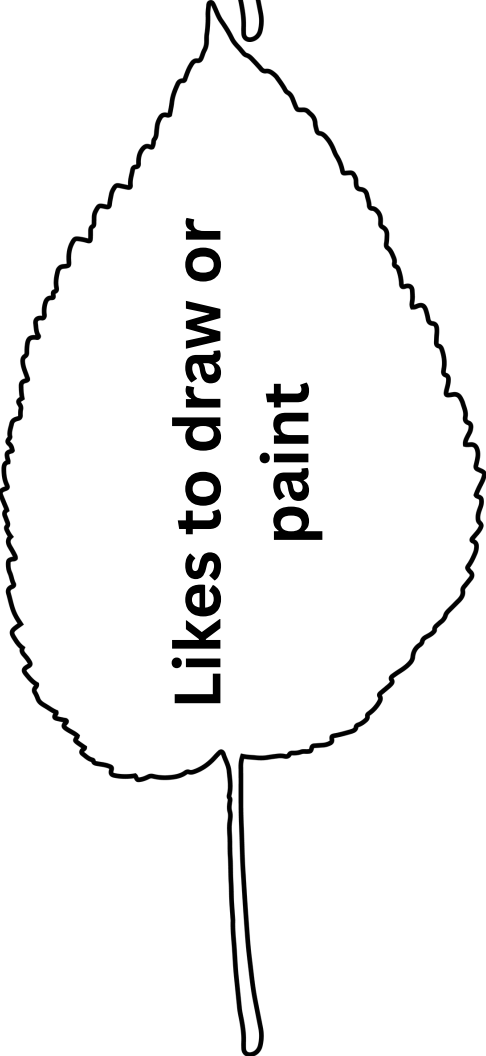
**Has ever been in a
talent show**



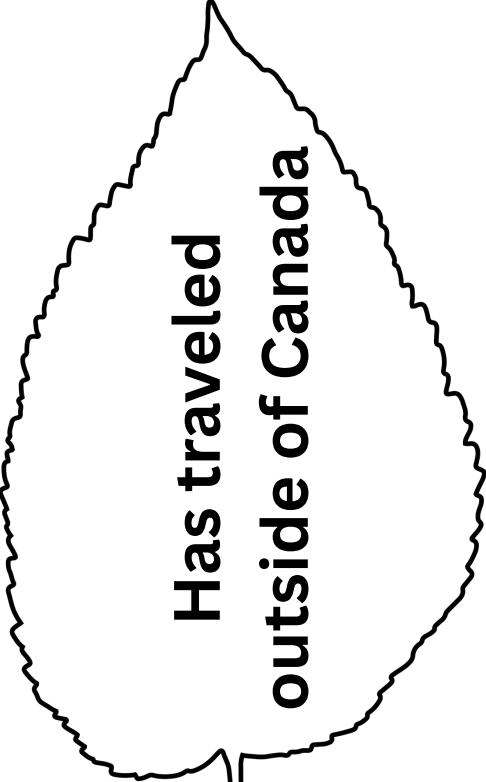
**Has read the same
book as you (ask
which one!)**



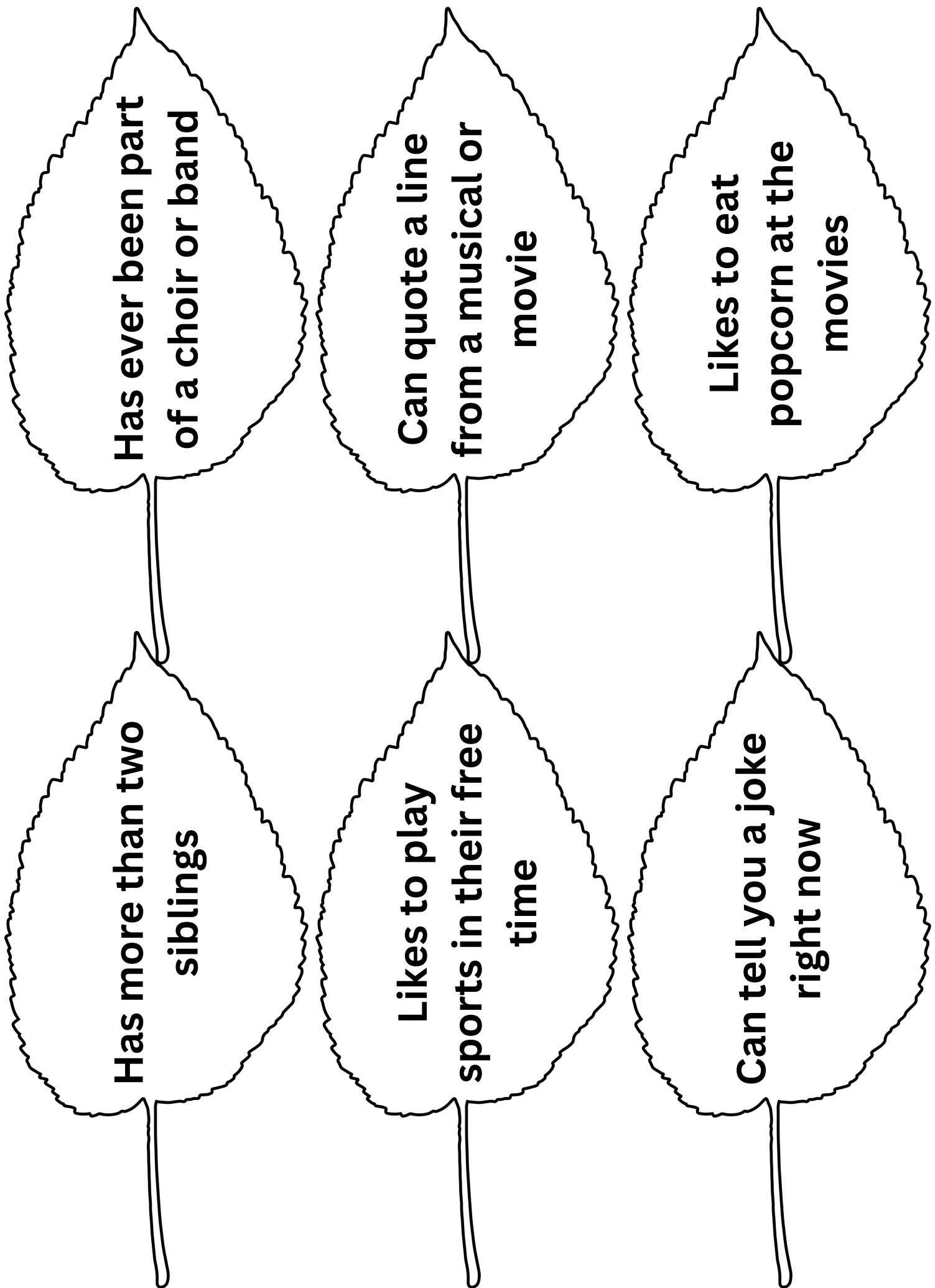
**Can name 5
characters from
Lion King**



**Likes to draw or
paint**



**Has traveled
outside of Canada**



**Has more than two
siblings**

**Has ever been part
of a choir or band**

**Likes to play
sports in their free
time**

**Can quote a line
from a musical or
movie**

**Can tell you a joke
right now**

**Likes to eat
popcorn at the
movies**