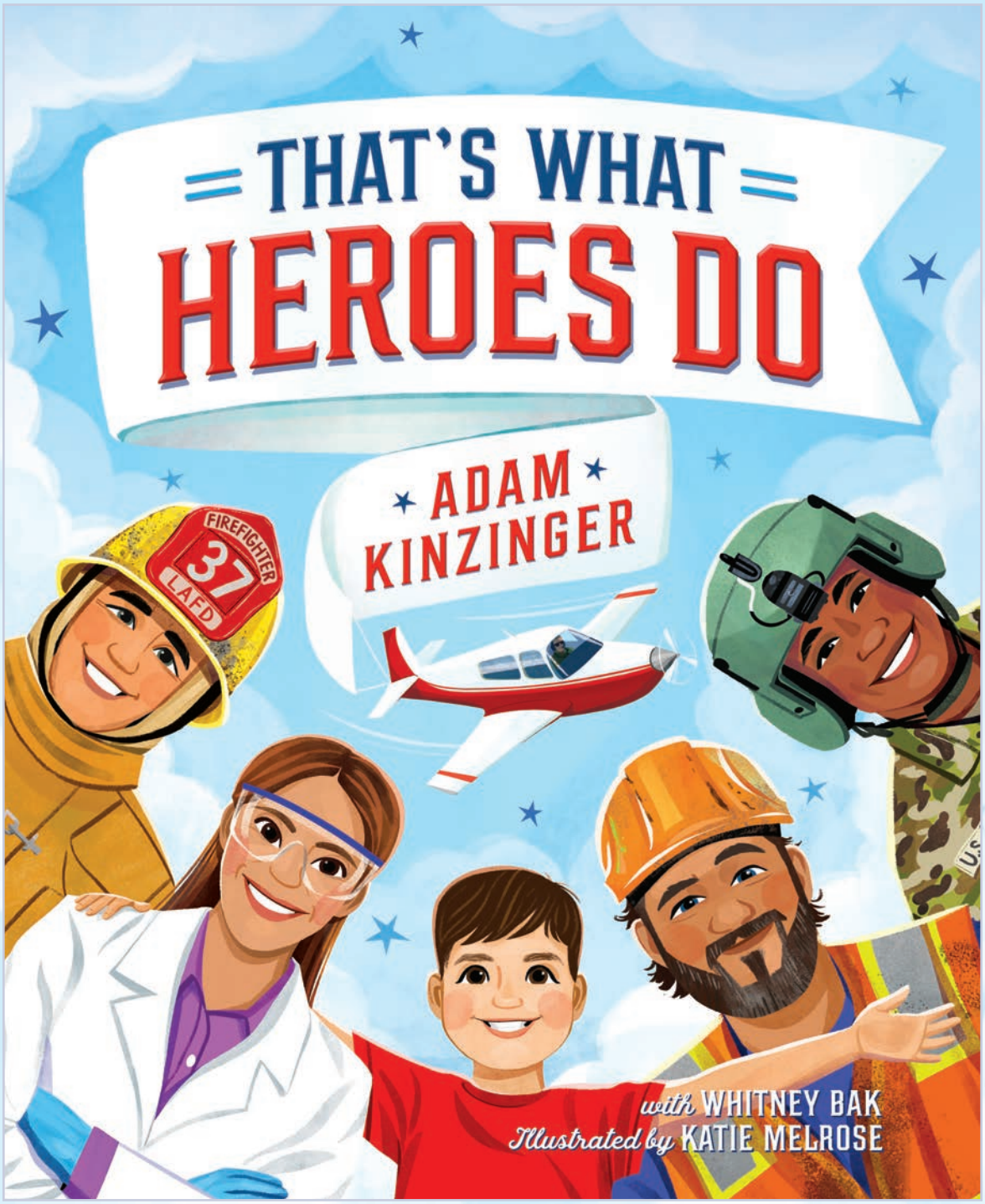
EDUCATOR'S GUIDE



Tommy NELSON

TITLE: *THAT'S WHAT HEROES DO*

Author: Adam Kinzinger

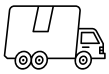
ISBN: 9781400252725
(Genre: Fiction) Approx Lexile: 610-800

Suggested Grade Level	Second to third grade

TASK 1

Task 1 Objectives	• Identifying character traits of a hero from the text • Categorizing hero and non-hero character traits
Task 1	Throughout the story Christian could easily identify traits of a hero through military occupations. However, he was confused on how other people could be considered heroes. Christian's dad was delighted to show him just what it means to be a hero. In this task you will follow along with Christian as he learns character traits of a hero and fill in the organizer as you read. Then using the sheet provided cut and paste the character traits into hero and non-hero attributes. Additional options: • Have students create additional traits to sort • Have students discuss in partners or with an adult what these traits mean and examples of each

HERO	NON-HERO

unkind	brave	helpful
honest	selfish	lazy
bossy	patient	respectful
caring	careless	rude
uplifting	protective	serving
unfair	hardworking	kind
gives up easily	dishonest	responsible
giving	supportive	mean
		
		
		

TASK 2

Task 2 Objectives	• Identify heroes within the school, home, and community • Write thank you cards
Task 2	In the story Christian and his dad had an adventure learning what heroes are all about. In this task you will reread the pages of their adventure and write down all of the heroes they discuss. You will place them in 3 categories: school, home, or community. Afterwards, think about each of those three categories and identify other heroes you know who weren't mentioned in the story and write them down on the organizer. Then use the card provided to write a thank you letter to one of those heroes.

SCHOOL	HOME

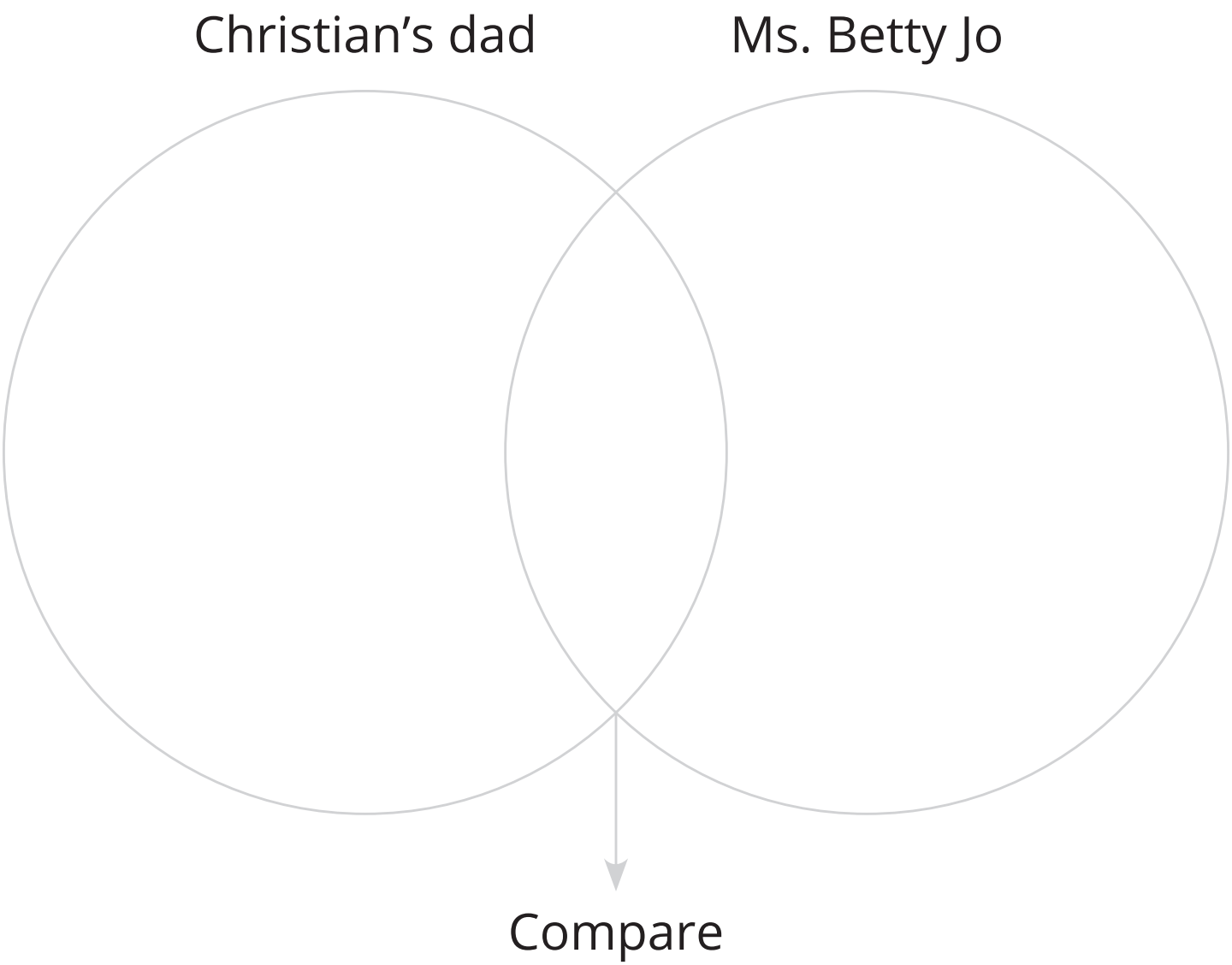
COMMUNITY

THANKS FOR BEING A HERO!

TASK 3

Task 3 Objectives	• Compare and contrast Christian's dad and Ms. Betty Jo
Task 3	For Christian it was an easy selection when it came time to choose his hero for the assignment Ms. Betty Jo gave her class. He understood why his dad would be considered a hero but was confused why Ella would pick Ms. Betty Jo as her hero. In the story, Christian's dad helped him see why Ms. Betty Jo was a hero too. In this task compare and contrast what Christian already knew about his dad as a hero to what he learned about Ms. Betty Jo in the story. As an extension, use this graphic organizer to answer the question: Do all heroes wear a uniform?

TASK 3: COMPARE & CONTRAST



TASK 4

Task 4 Objectives	• Research and write about your hero • Present your information
Task 4	Ms. Betty Jo gave her class the assignment of sharing about a hero in their life. In this task you will do the same. Using the research page create a poster about a hero in your life including who they are, what they do, and what makes them a hero. Then share this poster with someone. Options: complete only the research page to share.

Name: _____ Date: _____

HERO RESEARCH

My hero is:

Why do you think this person is a hero?

How do you know this person?

How does your hero help others?

What does your hero spend their time doing?

What good choices does your hero make?

Your heroes character traits:

Name: _____ Date: _____

HERO RESEARCH

My hero is:

Give an example of when your hero showed those traits.

How does your hero make the community better?

How has your hero helped you or others?

What would happen if your hero didn't help?

What could you learn from your hero?

How can you act like your hero?

Fun facts:

TASK 5

Task 5 Objectives	• Map places within the United States • Research additional hero facts in other states • Write about heroes
Task 5	Ask yourself these questions: • Do heroes exist everywhere? • Do heroes change based on where they live? • Do different regions or states have different types of heroes? • Are all heroes human? The hero facts page is very interesting and can spark lots of questions about heroes. It can also help us answer some of these questions. Use the map of the United States to pinpoint where these heroes are located. Then research additional heroes to add to the map using the hero fact sheet. Options: • Use coloring pencils to color code the states and the hero facts. • Cut hero fact strips and glue them to the map.


CANADA
WASHINGTON
Olympia
OREGON
Salem
MONTANA
Helena
IDAHO
Boise
NORTH DAKOTA
Bismarck
SOUTH DAKOTA
Pierre
WYOMING
Cheyenne
NEBRASKA
Lincoln
MINNESOTA
St Paul
IOWA
Des Moines
WISCONSIN
Madison
MICHIGAN
Lansing
Lake Superior
Lake Michigan
Lake Huron
Lake Erie
Lake Ontario
NEW YORK
Albany
MAINE
Augusta
Montpelier
VERMONT
NEW HAMPSHIRE
Concord
MASSACHUSETTS
Boston
Providence
RHODE ISLAND
CONNECTICUT
Hartford
PENNSYLVANIA
Harrisburg
Trenton
NEW JERSEY
Annapolis
Dover
DELAWARE
DC
Washington
MARYLAND
NEVADA
Carson City
Sacramento
CALIFORNIA
UTAH
Salt Lake City
COLORADO
Denver
KANSAS
Topeka
ILLINOIS
Springfield
MISSOURI
Jefferson City
INDIANA
Indianapolis
OHIO
Columbus
WEST VIRGINIA
Charleston
VIRGINIA
Richmond
KENTUCKY
Frankfort
TENNESSEE
Nashville
NORTH CAROLINA
Raleigh
SOUTH CAROLINA
Columbia
ARIZONA
Phoenix
NEW MEXICO
Santa Fe
OKLAHOMA
Oklahoma City
ARKANSAS
Little Rock
MISSISSIPPI
Jackson
ALABAMA
Montgomery
GEORGIA
Atlanta
FLORIDA
Tallahassee
LOUISIANA
Baton Rouge
TEXAS
Austin
PACIFIC OCEAN
ATLANTIC OCEAN
MEXICO
HAWAII
Honolulu
PACIFIC OCEAN
ARCTIC OCEAN
ALASKA
CANADA
BERING SEA
GULF OF ALASKA
Juneau
PACIFIC OCEAN

HERO FACT MAP CUT-OUTS

🍎 Food Pantry Heroes

Across the United States
Fact:
1 in 6 people in the U.S. use food pantries to get food.
Food pantries also give items like diapers, toothbrushes, and pet food.

🚨 911 Call Center Heroes

California
Fact:
California has more than **440** 911 call centers—more than any other state.

🎖️ Veteran Support Heroes

Across the United States
Fact:
A veteran is someone who served in the military.
Many organizations help veterans have safe homes after service.

🛡️ National Guard Heroes

Massachusetts (First Organized)
Fact:
The National Guard began in **1636**, making it older than the United States.

🏊 Lifeguard Heroes

Across the United States
Fact:
Lifeguards are trained to notice someone who needs help in just **10 seconds.**

HERO FACT MAP CUT-OUTS

✈️Youth Aviation Heroes

Chicago, Illinois
Fact:
The Tuskegee NEXT program teaches young people how to fly airplanes and helps them get jobs as pilots.

🚓Police Department Heroes

Detroit, Michigan
Fact:
Detroit police were the first to use radio-equipped police cars. Some officers still patrol parks on horseback.

🩺 Medical Research Heroes

Massachusetts (MIT)
Fact:
Scientists at MIT created a “bionic limb” to help people walk more naturally.

🏥Healthcare Heroes

Rochester, Minnesota
Fact:
The Mayo Clinic is the top-ranked hospital in the U.S.
More than **70,000 people** work there—including therapy dogs!