

Name _____

Date _____

Identify and Explain the Theme

Theme is the lesson or message of a story. An author often has a message. Sometimes the characters learn a lesson over the course of the story.

Use the Inference Map to note details and draw the theme.

The Lost Backpack

Liam was walking home from school when he saw a backpack lying on the side of the road. He picked it up and looked inside. There was a notebook with the name "Sophia" written on it.

"Maybe this belongs to the girl in my class," Liam thought. Instead of taking it home, Liam decided to wait by the road and see if anyone came looking for it. After a few minutes, Sophia ran up and said, "That's my backpack! Thank you for finding it!"

Liam smiled and said, "I thought you might need it back quickly." Sophia thanked him again and walked home with her backpack.

Setting	Characters	Characters' Actions

Theme:

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Identify and Explain the Theme – Answer Key

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Setting	Characters	Characters’ Actions
On the side of the road	Liam and Sophia	Liam waits by the road and return the backpack to Sophia.

Theme: Always be kind and helpful to others.