

Name _____

Character Detective - Discovering Heroes in Action

Meet the Heroes - Read the **short stories** of three real people from 9/11. Then, **identify which character trait** they showed most clearly: **bravery, empathy, or service**. Be ready to explain your reasoning.

Story 1: Firefighter Stephen Siller - Stephen Siller had just finished his shift on the morning of September 11 when he heard about the attacks. He rushed back, drove to the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel-but it was closed. So, he grabbed his 60-pound gear, ran through the tunnel on foot, and entered the South Tower to help rescue others. He never came out.

1A. Which character trait did Stephen Siller show?

Bravery Empathy Service

1B. Explain your answer in 1–2 sentences:

Story 2: Dr. Emil Chynn

Dr. Emil Chynn, a New York City eye doctor, was blocks away from the World Trade Center when the first plane hit. Instead of running home, he stayed on the streets and helped treat the wounded—cleaning cuts, giving water, and calming people down. He gave his business card to strangers in case they needed more help later.

2A. Which character trait did Dr. Chynn show?

Bravery Empathy Service

2B. Explain your answer in 1–2 sentences:



Story 3: Boat Captain Vincent Ardolino

After seeing the towers fall on the news, Captain Vincent Ardolino told his wife, “I have to go help.” He joined dozens of boat owners who rushed to Manhattan’s shores. In a massive rescue called the “9/11 boatlift,” they helped evacuate over 500,000 people stranded on the island—more than were rescued at Dunkirk in WWII.

3A. Which character trait did Captain Ardolino show?

Bravery Empathy Service

3B. Explain your answer in 1–2 sentences:
