Three Elements of Characterization

- How a character looks (physical description)
- How a character acts
- How other characters in the story react to this character

Other vocabulary terms useful in developing characters:

**Protagonist**- The main character in a story. The protagonist experiences the conflict in the story. The protagonist does not have to be “good.”

**Antagonist**- The cause of the conflict. The antagonist doesn’t have to be a person.

**Dialogue**- The words a character uses in conversation and how they are used gives the reader insight into the character.

**Stereotype**- A character that is over simplified. Lacks originality or individuality.