

Name _____ Date _____



Carrie loves to play sports, and she is a very good athlete. Her favorite sport is soccer. She loves racing up and down the field with the wind in her hair and the grass beneath her feet. She loves wearing her soccer uniform, from her cleats to her red shorts and jersey. Most of all, she loves kicking the ball through the goal posts to score.

Carrie's teammates don't always like playing soccer with her, though. Although she scores many goals for her team, she doesn't always treat the rest of the team very well. When a teammate make a mistake, Carrie gets very angry and yells at her, right in the middle of a game and in front of everyone. When one of them doesn't play as well as Carrie thinks they can, she tells her coach that she doesn't want to be on the field with them anymore. Even the teams that Carrie plays against don't like to play against her. She laughs and jokes about them when her team beats them.

One day, Carrie arrives at the field before a game. She starts to stretch and get ready to play, but her coach stops her. She tells Carrie that nobody on her team will play if she plays. Carrie complains, "But I'm the best player! This team won't win if I don't play!" The coach explains that her teammates are tired of being mistreated by her. They don't like being yelled at, and they don't like it when she refuses to play if one of them makes a mistake, so they've decided not to play with her anymore. "But we have to win! If we don't win, then why should we play?" Carrie asks.

Her coach asks if there's anything else Carrie likes about soccer besides winning. Carrie thinks for a minute while her teammates listen in. She tells the coach how she loves to run up and down the field and how she loves to wear her uniform. Carrie then tells her that, most of all, she loves to score. Her coach nods her head. "It's good to be able to score as well as you do, but think about it—who passes you the ball so you can score? Who guards our goal so that the other team doesn't score against us to win? And even if the other team does score—how could we play without them? Isn't it possible that everyone on this field deserves a little more respect than you've been showing them?"

Carrie's jaw drops, and she can't answer even though she knows what the answer is. Instead, she looks at her teammates. "I'm so sorry, you guys," she says quietly. "Please let me back on the team. I know what I've done wrong."

Values

Name _____ Date _____

What value is reflected in this story?

Choose three values from the list below. Tell how **two** of them are **not** demonstrated in this story, and tell how **one** of them **is** demonstrated.

diligence	loyalty	school pride
sportsmanship	kindness	simplicity

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Why do you think the value reflected in this story is an important one?

Draw a picture to illustrate this value:



Values

Name _____ Date _____

Answers to SPORTSMANSHIP:

Answers will vary and should reflect student understanding and ability. Answers should be discussed for clarity.

Answers to the first question may include some of the following ideas:

- | | |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Diligence | This value is not really reflected in the story. |
| Loyalty | Carrie could have decided to be nice to her teammates because she is loyal to her team, but it is not the main point of the story. |
| School Pride | This value is not reflected in the story, especially because it is not stated that this is a school team. |
| Sportsmanship | This is the value shown in the story. Carrie must learn to respect other players if she wants to play at all. Because her teammates don't want her to be mean to them, they decide they don't want to play with her. Once she changes her attitude, they change their minds. |
| Kindness | It could be argued that Carrie is showing kindness toward her teammates at the end of the story, but it is not the story's main point. |
| Simplicity | This value is not reflected in the story. |

Answers to the second question may include that sportsmanship makes us easier to play with and against, and even makes playing with and against us enjoyable; that sportsmanship helps us become better athletes and allows us to help others become better athletes; that sportsmanship teaches us to practice cooperation and a good attitude during sports; etc.