

## The challenge

### Create a character

Create a character that could be part of a football-themed story!

We teamed up with the **National Literacy Trust** and **top author Dan Freedman**. Dan is the author and creator of **Jamie Johnson**, a football-obsessed boy hoping to become a world-class player. You might have read some of the Jamie Johnson books, or even seen the stories on CBBC!

You can download a FREE COPY of Dan's first Jamie Johnson book *The Kick Off*, and watch the recording of the live interview with Dan and TV presenter Ben Shires, at the National Literacy Trust's **website**.

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Play the **Creating a character video** to watch Dan introduce the task.

Authors often say that it's not them that writes the story – the characters that they create do that job for them! So we want you to create your own fictional character that could be part of a really fun football story – maybe even part of the world of Jamie Johnson!

You can be as creative as you like with your character. Think about what they want to achieve, what the challenges are that stand in the way of them achieving their goals, and what their personality would add to a story.

Find top tips for creating your character from Dan Freedman on **[literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/9-12/dan-freedman-football-challenge](https://literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/9-12/dan-freedman-football-challenge)**.



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The more detail you can produce, the more believable and exciting your character will be. To make your entry really stand out, think about the following:

- Names are important. Like the title of a book, the name of your character holds power.
- If you are stuck, think about some interesting people you have met in your life. Perhaps your character could share some of their features, backgrounds or mannerisms.

This will really help you understand your character. Don't forget, if you would like some exclusive top tips from Dan himself, you can download these from:

[literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/9-12/dan-freedman-football-challenge](https://literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/9-12/dan-freedman-football-challenge).

You can use our **Creating a character challenge template** to put your character together, or your own piece of paper.

