

EXTRACTS  
AND NOTES  
FOR KSI  
TEACHERS

From **MATT HAIG** and illustrated by **CHRIS MOULD**

## INTRODUCTION

**Suitable for: Ages 5–7**

- **Includes:** Free extracts from the books + discussion questions and suggested activities
- **Themes:** Truth; Friendship; Bullying; Starting a New School; Celebrating Differences

## CONTENTS

### PACK 1: A TRUE FRIEND (page 3)

- **Objectives:** Explore the theme of true friendship in the book and identify the qualities of a good friend; create a 'Friendship Recipe' listing all the ingredients that make a good friend.
- **Subjects:** Literacy: Reading Comprehension & Inference, Writing to Instruct, Citizenship, PSHE, Art, Design and Technology, Drama

### PACK 2: YOUR ONE TRUE SELF (page 9)

- **Objectives:** Consider what shapes a person's 'one true self' by completing questionnaires with a partner; create a True Self Passport to show what makes you different and special.
- **Subjects:** Literacy: Reading Comprehension & Inference, Writing, Citizenship, PSHE, Art, Design and Technology, Speaking and Listening.

We'd love to hear about how you're using these **Truth Pixie** resources in your classrooms, libraries etc. Please share your photos and stories with us online! Tag us **@canongatebooks** on Twitter and Instagram and use the hashtag **#TheTruthPixie**.



# THE TRUTH PIXIE

GOES TO SCHOOL



## About the Books



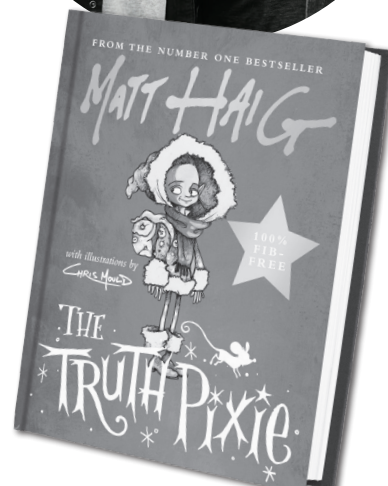
From number one bestselling author Matt Haig comes two hilariously and heart-warming stories, brilliantly illustrated throughout by Chris Mould.



### THE TRUTH PIXIE

**'Wherever she is, whatever the day,  
She only has one kind thing to say.  
Just as cats go miaow and cows go moo,  
The Truth Pixie can only say things that are true.'**

A very funny and lovable tale of how one special pixie learned to love herself. *The Truth Pixie* is an enchanting rhyming story that will delight younger readers.

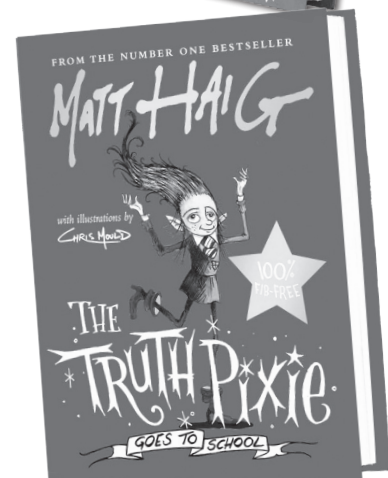


### THE TRUTH PIXIE GOES TO SCHOOL

**NEW SCHOOL. NEW FRIENDS. SAME OLD PIXIE.**

**'Don't try to be something  
You really are not.  
Your one true self  
Is the best thing you've got.'**

In this heartwarming adventure, the *Truth Pixie* and her human friend go to school, face a bully and learn the importance of friendship and being yourself.





## PACK 1: A TRUE FRIEND

(Extracts taken from *The Truth Pixie*: Pages 22–23, and *The Truth Pixie Goes to School*: Page 98)

Extract from pages 22–23

‘Truth shouldn’t hurt people,  
Truth shouldn’t surprise,  
But, oh Maarta, it does!  
I so wish I’d tell lies.  
When I go out, I hope to see  
Absolutely no one, except you and me.  
The Truth Pixie looks in the mirror  
And tells herself, “Don’t cry.”  
Even as she wipes  
A lonely tear from her eye.’



Extract from page 98

A true friend is rare,  
A true friend is the best,  
A true friend is needed  
Like East →  
← West



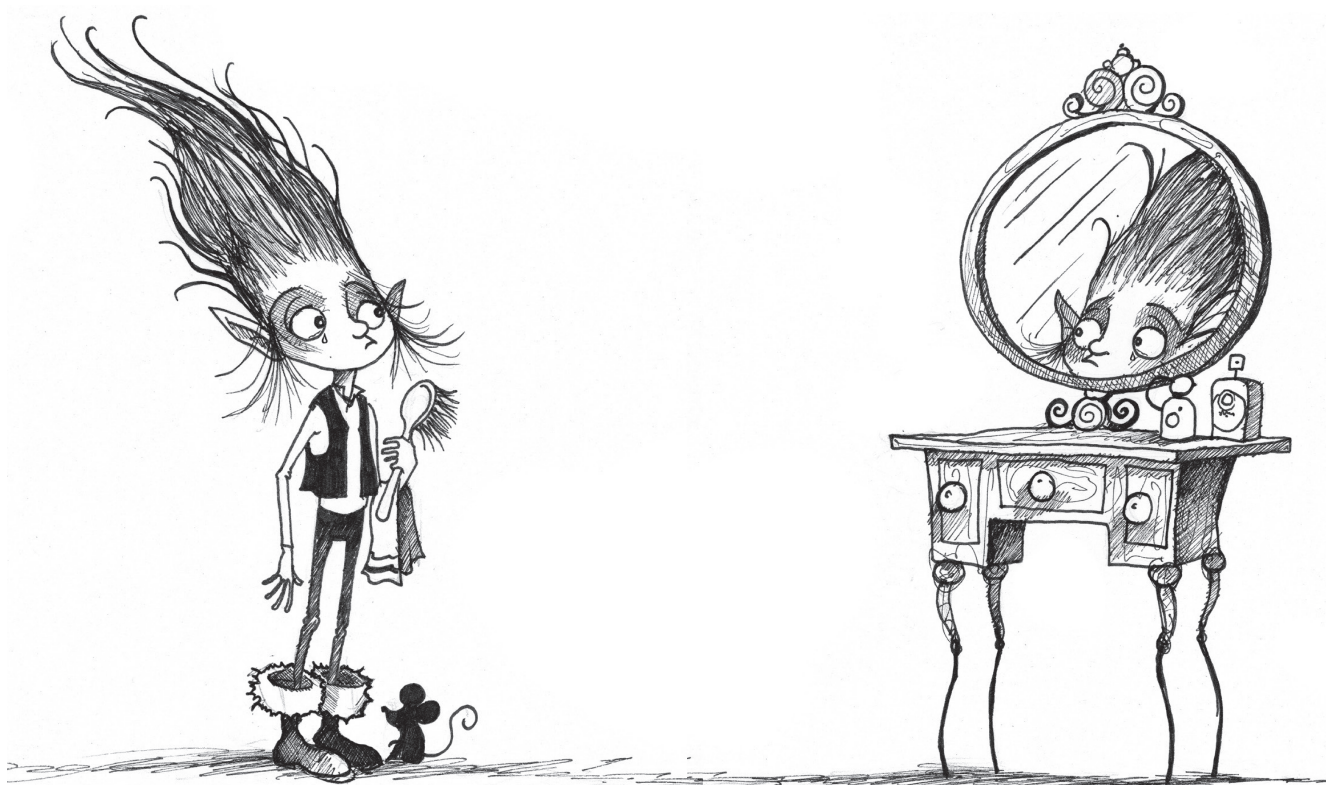


# THE TRUTH PIXIE

GOES TO SCHOOL



## PACK 1: A TRUE FRIEND

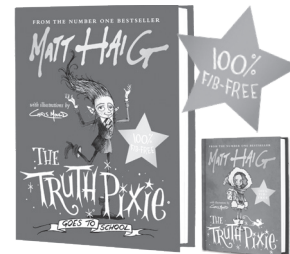


### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Do you have a special friend? Who is it? What makes them special?
2. What do you think makes a good friend?
3. Do you think it is important that a true friend tells the truth? Why or why not?
4. What does the Truth Pixie feel about always having to tell the truth? Why is it difficult to tell the truth sometimes?
5. What kind of character do you think the Truth Pixie is? Do you like the Truth Pixie? Why or why not?







## ACTIVITY 1: A TRUE FRIEND

**Subjects:** Literacy: Reading Comprehension & Inference, Art, Design and Technology, Drama

- In pairs, discuss what makes a true friend. Share your ideas together with the class.
- Create a **True Friend Wordbank** in which you write a list of qualities of a good friend. For example, is a good friend HONEST? KIND? FUNNY? Create illustrations for some of your favourite words, or hang them from the classroom ceiling!
- Why is the Truth Pixie a good friend to Aada in the story? What qualities does the Truth Pixie have?
- If you had your own pixie friend, what would they look like? Draw your own Truth Pixie!
- What problems would the Truth Pixie help you with? Create a short role-play in which you talk to the Truth Pixie.
- Read the rhyme about '**A True Friend**' on page 3. Draw a lovely illustration to accompany the words on the page. Dedicate your drawing to your **One True Friend**.



# THE TRUTH PIXIE

GOES TO SCHOOL



Draw your  
illustration  
here!

My One True Friend is called:

.....

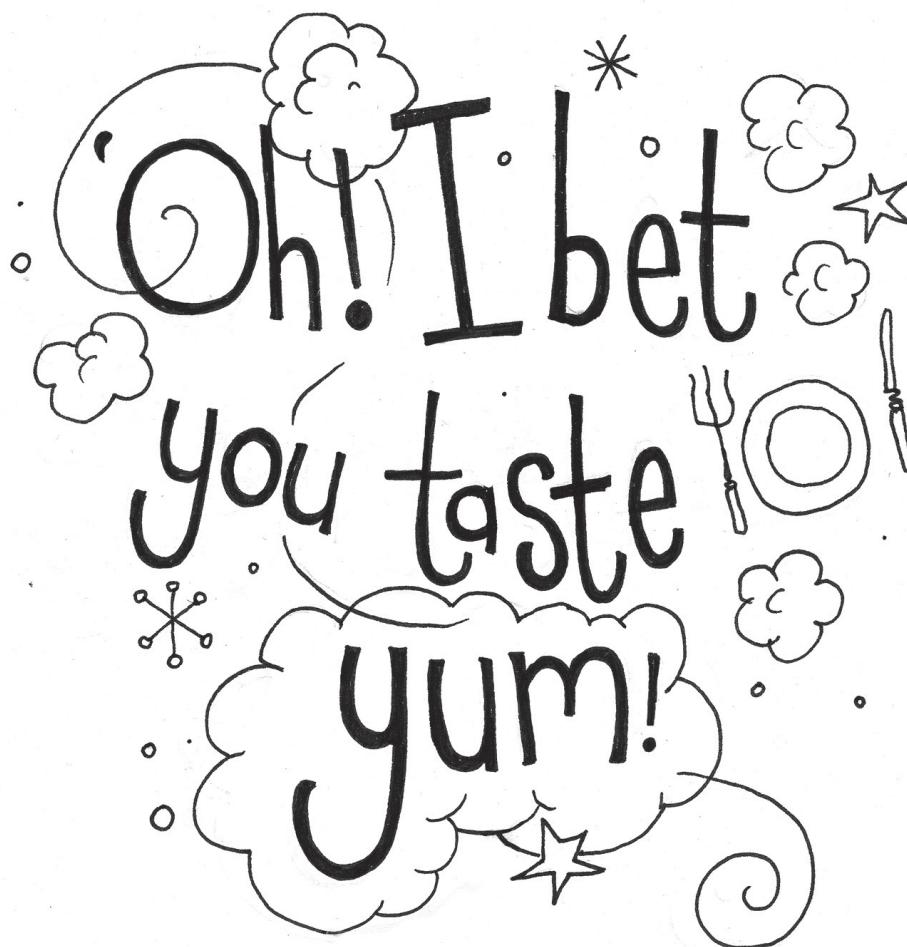




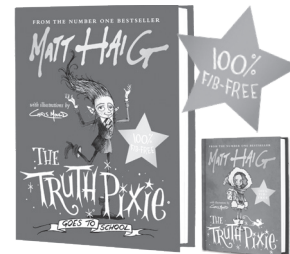
## ACTIVITY 2: FRIENDSHIP RECIPE

**Subjects:** Literacy: Writing to Instruct, Citizenship, PSHE, Art, Design and Technology

- Using ideas from *The Truth Pixie*, consider a good friendship to be like a dish you can cook in the kitchen, such as a stew or a curry. Consider all the issues you have talked about as ingredients that could go into it. Put all this together to make a recipe for what creates a good friendship. The first one has been started for you as an example. Now try to come up with more ideas of your own.
- When you have filled in the list of ingredients, draw icons or symbols for the ingredients going into the bowl and add some colour to make it look eye-catching – and even to make it into a classroom display!







# My Friendship Recipe

by .....



## INGREDIENTS NEEDED:

*250g of Truth!*

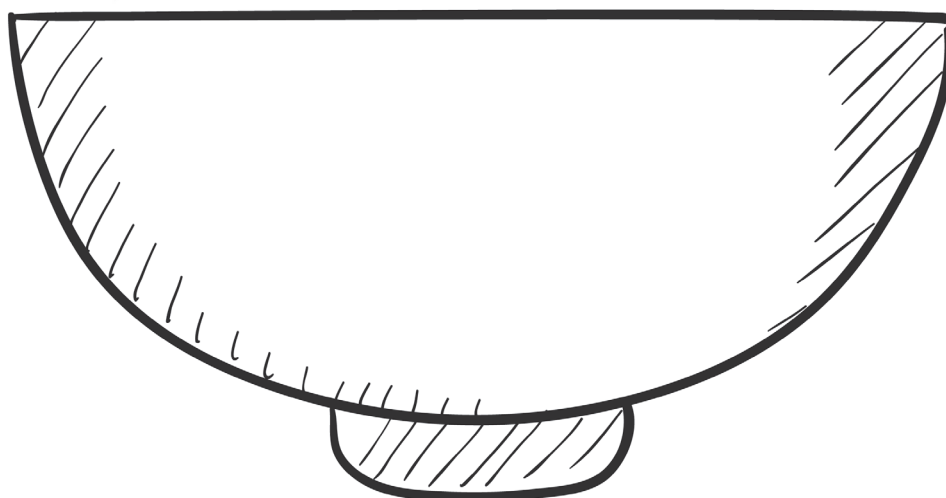
*150ml of .....*

*A pinch of .....*

*A good helping of .....*

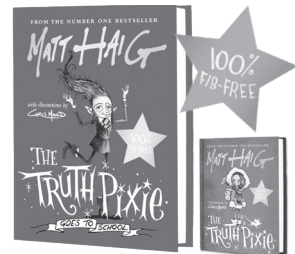
*2 tablespoons of .....*

*2 cans of .....*



# THE TRUTH PIXIE

GOES TO SCHOOL



## PACK 2: YOUR ONE TRUE SELF

(Extract taken from from *The Truth Pixie Goes to School*: Pages 24, 46–47)

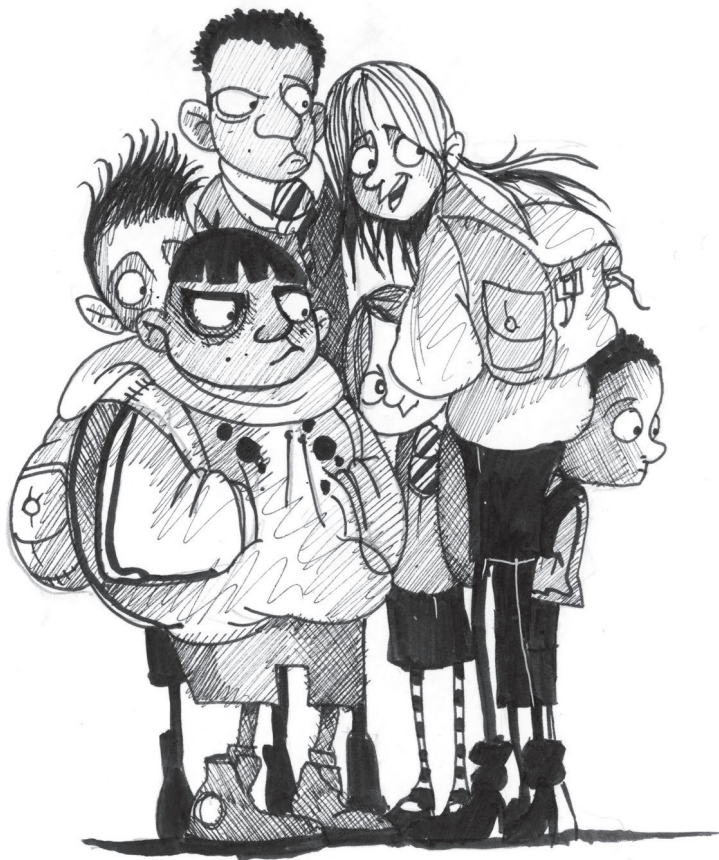
Extract from page 24

‘The children thought  
The pixie was strange.  
They laughed at her difference  
And they **didn’t** like change.’



Extract from pages 46–47

“But it’s the truth,” said Aada.  
“I really am a bit strange.  
I wish I was normal,  
I wish I could change.  
I wish I could speak  
Like the others do.  
I wish I could smile  
And not look so blue.  
I wish I didn’t care about people  
Who make me a **joke**.  
I wish we had **money**  
And weren’t so **broke**.  
I wish I had their faces  
With their natural smiles.  
And I wish I didn’t have thoughts  
Like snapping crocodiles.  
I wish Mum was still here,  
And my gran too.  
But I know, at least,  
That **I still have you.**”





## PACK 2: YOUR ONE TRUE SELF

(Extract taken from from *The Truth Pixie Goes to School*: Pages 48–49)

Extract from pages 48–49

“Oh, thank you,” said the pixie.

“That’s good to hear.

But I don’t like to see

Your mind full of fear.

You’re not normal,

That much is true.

**But why be normal,**

**When you could also be you?”**



Don't try to  
be something  
You really are not.  
Your one true self  
Is the best thing  
you've got.





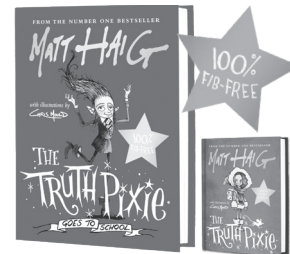
## PACK 2: YOUR ONE TRUE SELF



### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Have you ever started at a new school? What was it like? What would be your five Top Tips for someone starting at a new school?
2. Do you think starting at a new school can be difficult? Why?
3. Can you think of a situation in school where people don't like each other because of their differences?
4. What is a bully? How do bullies behave? Why do you think bullies behave the way they do?
5. What are the schoolchildren doing in the image on page 24 of *The Truth Pixie Goes to School*? How would it make you feel to be stared at by those children? What advice would the Truth Pixie give you in this situation?





## ACTIVITY 1: WHAT MAKES ME, ME?

**Subjects:** Literacy: Reading Comprehension & Inference, PSHE, Speaking and Listening

- We think about ourselves in lots of different ways – sometimes negatively. Why does Aada think negatively about herself on pages 46–47 of *The Truth Pixie Goes to School*? What is the Truth Pixie’s response to Aada’s fears and worries?
- It is important to celebrate yourself and everything that is unique about you. Answer the questionnaire on the next page to start thinking about what makes you, you!
- When you have filled in your answers, swap it with a partner. Read over each other’s answers and tick every answer that is different. At the end, add up how many of your answers are the same and how many are different. Think about how this makes you both special and why this is something to celebrate.
- Go through each question as a class, with each pair feeding back a response to one of the questions. Finish by reading aloud the Truth Pixie’s advice on page 49 of *The Truth Pixie Goes to School*. Does saying these words together make everyone feel stronger, safer and happier? Repeat until they do!

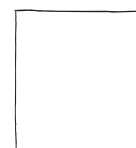




## What Makes Me, Me?

Name .....

1. Where do you live? .....
2. Who do you live with? .....
3. What colour are your eyes? .....
4. What is your favourite food? .....
5. Who is your one true friend? .....
6. What is your favourite hobby? .....
7. What inspires you? .....
8. Who is your role model or hero? .....
9. What is your favourite subject at school? .....
10. What would you like to be when you're older? .....
11. I swapped my questionnaire with ..... and  
of our answers were different.
12. This is something to **CELEBRATE** because: .....







## ACTIVITY 2: MY TRUE SELF PASSPORT

**Subjects:** Literacy: Writing, Citizenship, PSHE, Art, Design and Technology

- Create a **True Self Passport** by thinking more deeply about who you are.  
*For example:* The boxes can be used for illustrations of you, your family members, your best friends and/or symbols of things that are important to you.
- You should also include how you would describe yourself on the inside and the outside.  
*For example:* On the inside, you could use words or phrases to express your personality, important values you believe in, or your faith. On the outside, you could describe your appearance and what makes you stand out from your classmates.
- Put these passports on display in the classroom so that you can always learn something new about one another.

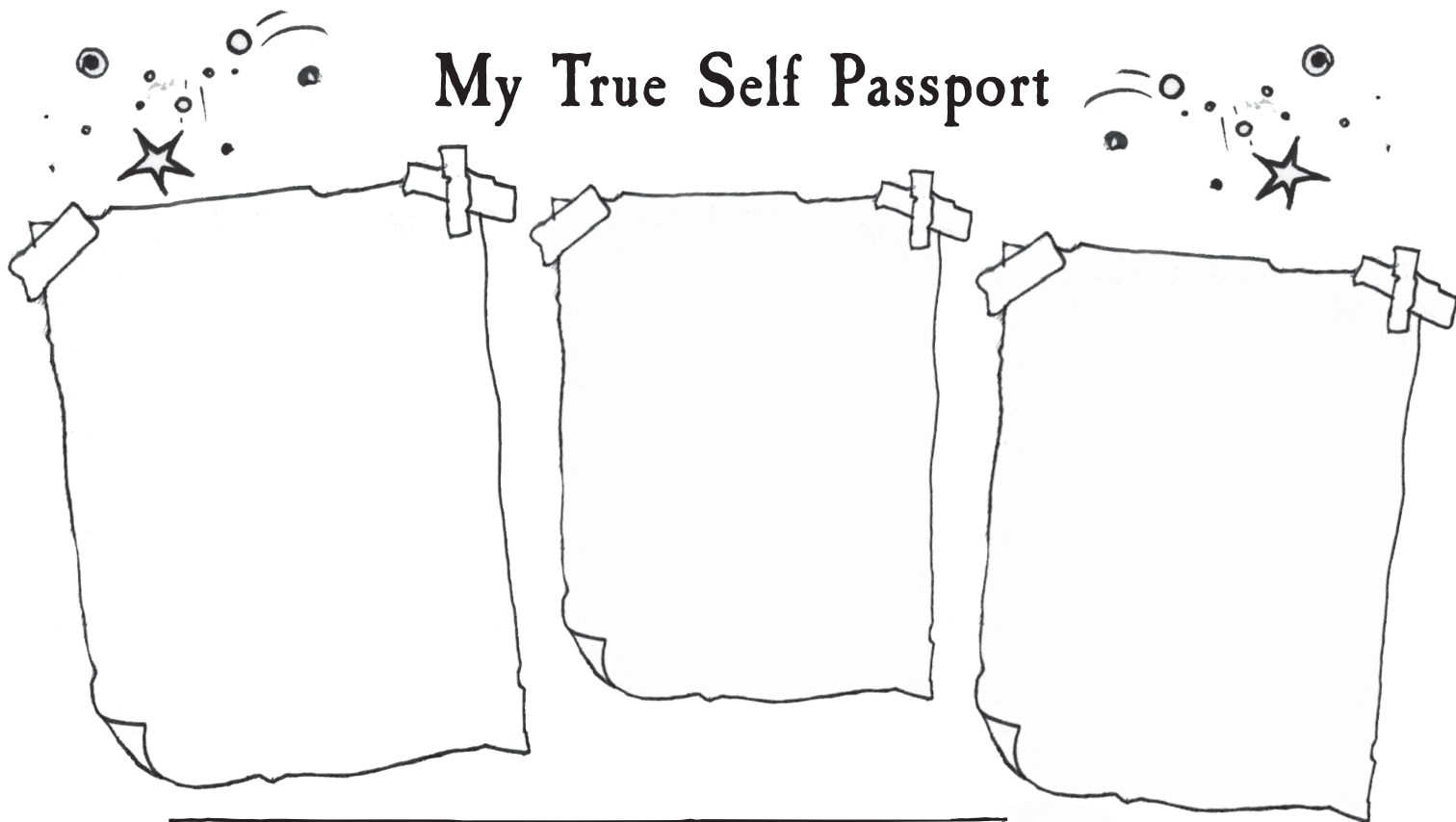


# THE TRUTH PIXIE

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## My True Self Passport



1. Name and nickname if you have one:
2. An interesting fact about me:
3. An interesting fact about my family:
4. Three words to describe me on the inside:
5. Three words to describe me on the outside:

