

Name _____

The Monkey King

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Sun Wukong's character transformation from a mischievous monkey to a legendary hero is a central theme in "The Monkey King." His experiences, such as acquiring the Ruyi Jingu Bang and being trapped under a mountain, taught him humility and the importance of using his powers for good. He learned the value of selflessness and redemption, ultimately becoming a symbol of heroism.
2. The theme of redemption is evident in Sun Wukong's journey. His rebellion and subsequent imprisonment served as a means of atonement for his earlier actions. Through repentance and a vow to protect the Monk Tang, he was able to redeem himself and find his true purpose as a hero.
3. The Ruyi Jingu Bang, Sun Wukong's magical staff, symbolizes both his power and his journey of self-discovery. Its ability to change size represents Sun Wukong's growth and adaptability, while its power reflects his strength. As the story progresses, the staff becomes a powerful tool for good, emphasizing the importance of using one's abilities wisely.
4. Companionship and teamwork are essential elements in "The Monkey King." Sun Wukong's relationships with his companions demonstrate the strength of unity and the importance of mutual support on their challenging journey. Each member of the group contributes unique qualities and skills, which together lead to their success in achieving their quest.

