

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Templeton's Choice

In *Charlotte's Web*, Templeton the rat is very different from both Charlotte and Wilbur. While Charlotte is kind and selfless, and Wilbur is innocent and friendly, Templeton is greedy, selfish, and only helps when there is something in it for him. However, even though he does not act like a hero, Templeton still plays an important role in the story.

Templeton lives in the barn but does not care about the other animals the way Charlotte and Wilbur do. He only looks out for himself, searching for food and sneaking around. While Charlotte spins her web to save Wilbur and Wilbur tries to be a good friend, Templeton only thinks about what benefits him. When Charlotte needs help finding new words for her web, Templeton refuses at first. He does not see why saving Wilbur is important—after all, he is just a pig. But when the animals promise that Wilbur's survival means more food scraps for him, Templeton agrees to help.

Though Templeton's actions are selfish, they are still important. He finds words that Charlotte weaves into her web, which convinces the farmers to keep Wilbur alive. Without his help, Charlotte might not have had enough ideas to continue her plan. In the end, even though Templeton does not act out of kindness, he still helps Wilbur and plays a role in saving his life.

Templeton also represents a different side of life in the barn. Unlike Wilbur and Charlotte, he does not believe in friendship or sacrifice. However, this makes him an interesting character. He provides humor with his grumpy attitude and sneaky ways. While readers may not admire Templeton, they can see that not everyone has to be kind or brave to make a difference.

At the end of the story, Templeton is still selfish, but he continues to help when needed—especially if there is food involved. He shows that sometimes, even those who do things for the wrong reasons can still play an important role in a bigger plan.