ACTIVITY:
THE QUEST

A quest story tells the tale of a hero who sets off on a journey. And we get to come along for the ride! Examples of quest stories from literature and popular culture include *Lord of the Rings*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and the *Star Wars* series.

Though it takes place in the "regular" world, *Ms. Bixby's Last Day* is also a quest story. In *Ms. Bixby's Last Day* there are no sword fights or evil villains to overcome, but there are three heroic fifth graders: Topher, Steve, and Brand, setting off on a dangerous journey with one goal in mind—to give their teacher the best last day on earth ever!

Create a quest story plot graph for each one of the characters. Each arc will be a little different depending on which character it belongs to. Be sure to include the following important quest plot points:

THE CALL TO SERVICE: what is the character's motivation to go on this journey?

STAKES: what risks does the character face in taking this journey?

THE JOURNEY: what challenges does the character face along the way? Be sure to describe this journey from the point of view of a single character.

THE TRIALS: what obstacles, fears, or danger does the character need to face to achieve his goal?

THE VICTORY: how does the character achieve his goal and complete the quest?

THE RETURN: how has the character changed or transformed through the experience of the quest?

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