



## SUMMARY

Rafiki, the community shaman, summons all the animals for the birth of the future king, Simba. We follow Simba as he grows and is taught by his father, Mufasa, the reigning king. Scar, Mufasa's brother, is jealous of Simba and Mufasa. He plots with his crew of hyenas to become the Lion King. Simba is caught in this plot and eventually runs away, tormented by the death of his father. Simba eventually finds his way back to the pride with the help of new and old friends and family.

## CHARACTER GUIDE

**Rafiki:** A baboon who uses her mystical powers to guide Simba on his path back home.

**Simba:** Rightful heir to the Pridelands throne. He's forced into exile by his uncle, Scar.

**Mufasa:** Strong and compassionate King of the Pridelands. He's teaching his son, Simba, to be a responsible leader and also claim his place as king when he grows up.

**Zazu:** A hornbill, and Mufasa's dutiful advisor. He becomes flustered whenever rules aren't followed.

**Sarabi:** Queen of the savanna and Simba's mother.

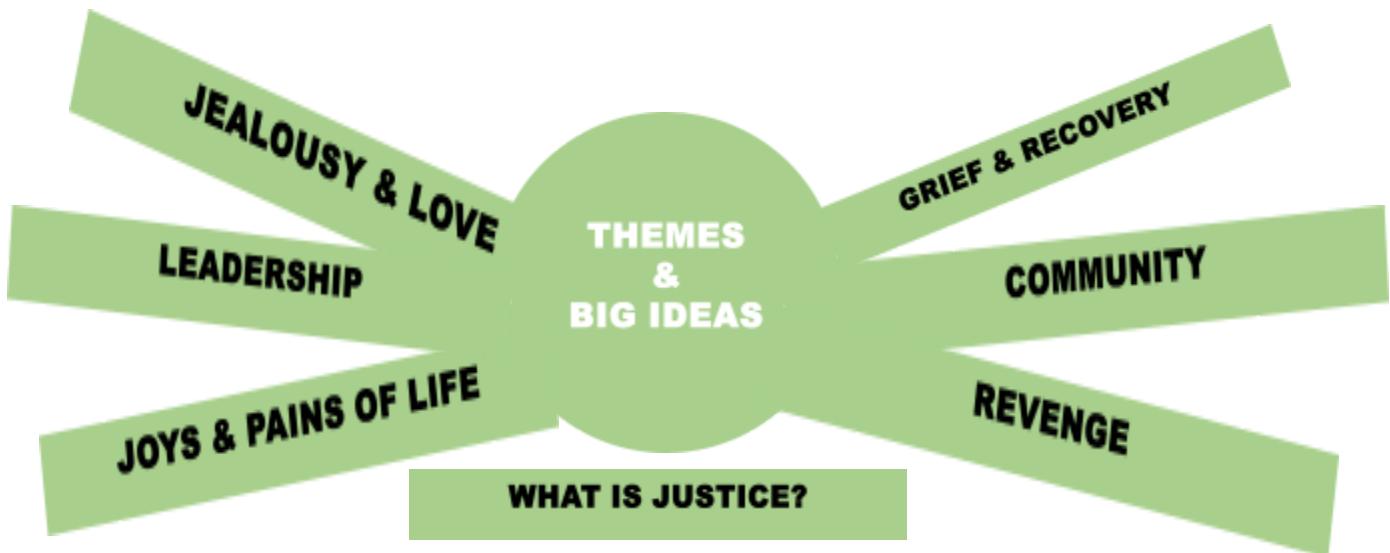
**Nala:** Inquisitive lioness cub and Simba's best friend. She grows up to be a brave lioness who helps restore order in the Pridelands.

**Scar:** Mufasa's ruthless brother who plots his death. He robs Simba of the chance to be king.

**Timon:** A funny and energetic meerkat who befriends Simba in the jungle.

**Pumbaa:** A warthog and Timon's sidekick. Together they teach Simba their carefree philosophy.

**Banzai, Shenzi, and Ed:** Trio of hyenas who are loyal to Scar.



## EXERCISES & ACTIVATIONS

### Writing

Listen to "Endless Night" sung by Simba. How did Simba get to this moment of believing that "the sun will rise," that hardship won't always stay? What are the feelings and thoughts that Simba has at the beginning of the song? What thoughts and feelings does he have at the end? Imagine having someone in your life who feels similar to Simba. Write your original note, poem, or verse to this person beginning with "I know \_\_\_\_\_, And that \_\_\_\_\_" like in "Endless Night."

### Embodying

Choose an animal or plant that you wish to learn more about. Research its habitat and listen to "Grasslands Chant." As you listen to "Grasslands Chant," imagine it moving through its habitat. Create two movements with others or gestures for it. One that is a greeting it gives to anyone it meets, and a second movement that represents their inner joy or pride. Continue to move through your space while listening and sharing the greeting and inner joy or pride movements.