

## Introduction:

For this project you will be creating your own superhero comic book featuring Siddhartha Gautama's life. This is a chance for you to show off your creativity and knowledge as it applies to what we have learned about Buddhism's origins and values. You will need to complete a number of steps that will help you on your way to your finished comic book, so let's get started!

Authenticity Disclaimer: Creativity is strongly encouraged, but please remember to make your stories as historically accurate as possible. Names and events may be slightly embellished or altered to fit with your theme or plot, but please make sure they are recognizable and representative of the actual people and events that took place.

# **Key Elements:**

Your comic books need to incorporate several key elements specific to the comic book genre. YOU WILL NEED TO TURN THIS PACKET IN ALONG WITH YOUR FINISHED COMIC BOOK! Please use the following list to check off which elements you have completed as the project progresses:

Superhero Name

Super Power

Alter-ego (who your hero is when he/she is not being a superhero. For example,

Superman's alter-ego is Clark Kent, a Journalist at the Daily Planet)

Villain (with accompanying power)

Origin Story (Your comic book will be predominantly a Superhero origin story,

but should include elements of the conflict, resolution, and moral theme that are

part of Siddhartha's story)

Conflict

Resolution

Moral/Theme

#### Step 1: The Hero

Create your superhero name and power! Names can be derivative of Siddhartha's original name or completely new, but he/she must have powers or characteristics that represent an actual quality or trait of Siddhartha.

Superhero name: \_\_\_\_\_

Super power: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Step 2: The Day Job

Create your alter-ego! As with the superhero name, the alter-ego name can also be derivative of Siddhartha's original name (Siddhartha Gautama). Give your alter-ego a name, and briefly describe what his/her "normal" job/life is like.

Alter-ego:

Description of alter-ego:

### Step 3: The Bad Guy (or Girl)

Create a villain who will attempt to thwart Siddhartha, his goals and virtues. Give him/her an evil power, and briefly describe their reason, or motivation, for wanting to undo your hero.

Villain's Name:

Evil Power: \_\_\_\_\_

Motivation:

#### **Step 4: The Spider Bite**

This is the bulk of the project: the hero's origin story. Just like Spider-Man's story begins with Peter Parker (the alter-ego) being bit by a radioactive spider, then his uncle gets killed, causing Peter to use his power for good to stop criminals, so you will create an origin story about your superhero.

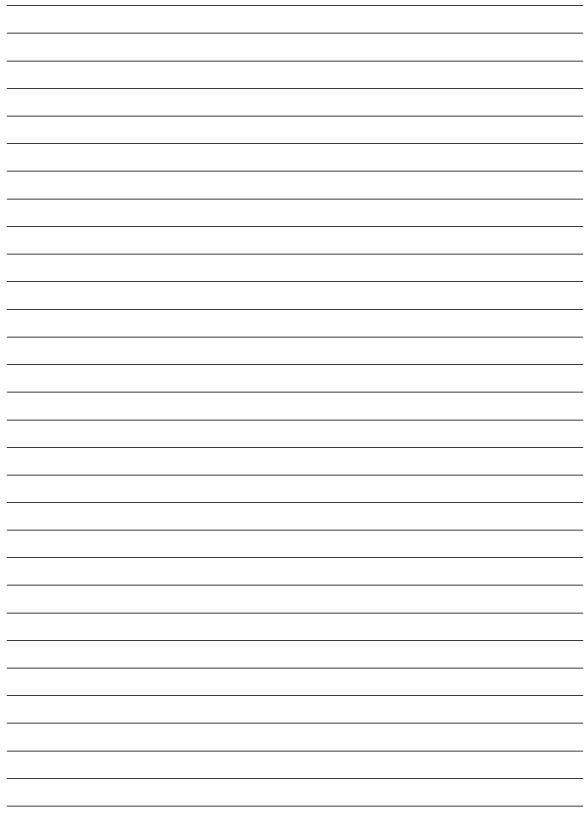
This story should include a conflict the hero goes through on his way to becoming "super," with a nice, tidy, resolution at the end. Your story can have a "to be continued..." as comic books often lead to the next comic book, but your story MUST have a final wrap-up to the plot. Your story will also need to have a moral or theme (just like the theme in Spider-Man is: With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility). Yours should be related to Buddhism.

In addition to these story requirements, you <u>MUST</u> include the following elements of Siddhartha's life (they can be embellished to fit your plot, but the basic skeleton of the story needs to follow these guidelines):

Siddhartha's Birth His Life in the Palace Discovering the Three Forms of Suffering His Life as an Ascetic Becoming the Buddha Moral/Theme (related to Buddhism): \_\_\_\_\_

The Story:





FOR MORE SPACE, STAPLE A LINED PIECE OF PAPER TO THIS PACKET