

## Character Counts Essay

Suddenly, I hear a soft sound. A cricket. Sitting up, I continue to hear the cricket. I quietly tip-toe over to the fence. Listening carefully, I move aside the plants trying to find the cricket. I've never caught a cricket and I couldn't believe that I was two steps away from actually catching one.

I take another and just as I'm about to take another one, the chirping stops. Like the ice queen froze him. Standing still carefully, I listen to see if the chirping would start again. It doesn't. Either way, I take one step and move aside the plants in search of the cricket. As always, I find nothing. With a hint of sadness inside I turn around and start walking back to my guinea pig. Looking up from my feet, I notice that Pipsqueak isn't around.

Suddenly, I feel a rush of fear go through me. I just got him this winter and I can't believe I lost him already. Did he run away? Did an eagle or hawk eat him? I start flipping my head all over the place so that my hair starts whipping my face. The hot tears start pouring down my cheeks like a waterfall after a hot day. Did I really leave him for that long? I run up to the window hoping that my mom will help. I can see the look of confusion on her face but I don't look long enough to make sure. Suddenly a plant moves. I feel my whole body relax. I quickly grab Pipi and rush inside, drying off my tears.

That day has changed my life forever. I always keep my eye on all my belongings so that I don't lose anything. I take care of my pets in a better way, making sure that they're always safe and out of harms way. I learned that responsibility and caring are keys in life. I always complete all my duties before starting new ones so that I never leave a mess and lose something. That day will never repeat itself because I am very careful these days.