Romeo and Juliet
The Characters

Prince—
The ruler of Verona. He has had enough of the feuding and wants peace. He is a reasonable man and does not favor either side.

Capulet—
Juliet’s father and the head of the Capulet family. He has the final say over all financial matters, marriages, and business ventures. He is use to getting his own way.

Montague—
is Romeo’s father. He is a lot like Capulet only gentler and more sensitive. He is a very concerned and caring father.

Lady Capulet—
is Juliet’s Mother. She is much younger than her husband, and gave birth to Juliet when she was about 14. She does not have a warm relation with Juliet.

Lady Montague—
is Romeo’s mother. She is older than Lady Capulet and is more concerned with her son’s happiness than with her own.

Juliet—
is two weeks away from her fourteenth birthday. She is obedient and well mannered. She is honest with her feelings. She loves Romeo and is not ashamed to admit it.

Juliet’s Nurse—
In wealthy families a nurse took care of the children from the time that they were born until they were on their own. Juliet is closer to her nurse than to her own mother.

Juliet’s Nurse—

Paris—
is a cousin to the prince and a member of the royal family. He asks Capulet if he can marry Juliet. Juliet’s parents think he is the perfect husband for her.

Mercutio—
is a relative of the prince and is accepted by both the Capulets and the Montagues. He is a very good friend to Romeo. He hates Tybalt.

Benvolio—
is Romeo’s cousin. He is peace loving, but will fight when he pushed. He is honest and reliable and a good friend to Romeo and Mercutio.

Romeo—
is about sixteen years old. He is rich, smart and good-looking. He was in love with Rosaline who was not interested in him. When he meets Juliet, he instantly falls in love with her and is willing to risk all to be with her. He is not interested in the feud and thinks his love for Juliet may help end the family feud.

Friar Laurence—
He has a special friendship with Romeo, and Romeo goes to him for advice about his love life. The friar agrees to marry Romeo and Juliet. He hopes that this will help end the families from feuding. When Juliet’s parents arrange for her to marry Paris, he gives her the medicine that makes it look like she is dead.

Balthasar—
Romeo’s personal servant. Like Romeo, he is not very interested in the feud.

Gregory—
is the brighter of the Capulet servants. He also wants to fight the Montague’s

Excerpts for these character descriptions are from Discovering Shakespeare, Romeo and Juliet a workbook for students, Fredi Olster and Rick Hamilton, A Smith and Kraus Book. Lyme NH. 1996.

Graphic organizer designed by Dianne Wright