LESSON PLAN

Equipped for Service

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	5

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion about what service means to students. Ask them to share examples of service in their community.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read the story "Equipped for Service" aloud to the class. After reading, have a brief discussion on initial thoughts and feelings about the story.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups to analyze the characters and their motivations. Each group will identify quotes or scenarios from the text that support their analysis.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Have students write a short reflection on a time they served their community and how it made them feel. Encourage them to consider if they received any recognition for their actions.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Conclude the lesson with a quick exit ticket where students write down one thing they learned about service today and one way they might contribute to their community in the future.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: Equipped for Service; "True service and commitment to a cause can be recognized and rewarded, even in unexpected ways."
- **Plot Summary**: During the Civil War, a Patriot traveling through Maryland orders seven telescopes to support local industries. His generous act leads to him being commissioned as a colonel by the Governor, highlighting how acts of service can lead to recognition and reward.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **The Patriot**: Represents selflessness and commitment to his community and country.
  - **The Governor**: Symbolizes authority and the recognition of service, reinforcing the idea that true contributions do not go unnoticed.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will understand the importance of service and its impact on communities.
  - Students will analyze the motivations behind the characters' actions in the story.
  - Students will discuss how acts of kindness can lead to recognition and reward.
  - Students will reflect on personal experiences where they have contributed to a cause.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What motivated the Patriot to purchase seven telescopes, and how does this reflect his character?
  2. How does the Governor's response to the Patriot's actions illustrate the theme of recognition in service?
  3. Can you think of a time when a small act of kindness led to unexpected rewards in your life?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the story "Equipped for Service"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and writing utensils for reflection

✓ Original text available on the story page.