LESSON PLAN

The Ass and His Driver

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–5	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion about stubbornness. Ask students to share times when they or someone else was stubborn, and what the outcomes were.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read the story aloud to the class. Pause at key moments to discuss the characters' feelings and motivations. Invite students to predict what might happen next at crucial points.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

- Divide students into small groups to discuss the actions of the ass and the driver.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Have students write a short paragraph about a time they faced a situation where they had to choose between stubbornness and listening to advice. Encourage them to reflect on the outcomes.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Quickly assess understanding by having students share one key takeaway from the story and how it relates to the moral lesson.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Ass and His Driver; Moral: "Stubbornness can lead to one's own downfall."
- **Plot Summary**: An ass, driven along a high road, suddenly bolts towards a precipice. Despite his owner's attempts to pull him back, the ass insists on going his own way, ultimately leading to his own downfall as the owner resigns to the situation.
- **Key Characters**:
  - **The Ass**: Represents stubbornness and the consequences of refusing to heed warnings.
  - **The Driver**: Symbolizes reason and caution, illustrating the futility of trying to control someone unwilling to listen.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will identify the moral lesson of the story.
  - Students will analyze character motivations and actions.

- Students will discuss the implications of stubbornness in real life.
- Students will relate the story to other educational moral stories they know.

- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What could the ass have done differently to avoid his downfall?
  2. How does the driver’s reaction change throughout the story?
  3. Can you think of a time when stubbornness led to a negative outcome in your life or someone you know?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of 'The Ass and His Driver'
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pencils for note-taking
  - A projector (for visual aids)