LESSON PLAN

The Ass and the Grasshopper

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–5	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion about a time when students tried to imitate someone else. Ask them how it turned out and if they regret those choices.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Ass and the Grasshopper" aloud. After reading, ask students to share their initial reactions to the story.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups and provide chart paper. Have them list the Ass's choices and their consequences. Encourage creative thinking by asking groups to illustrate a different ending where the Ass makes a wiser choice.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Invite students to reflect individually on a time they might have imitated someone without thinking. Ask them to write a short paragraph on what they learned from that experience.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Collect the students' reflections and review them for understanding of the moral. Provide verbal feedback on their insights.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Ass and the Grasshopper; The moral of the story is that one should not blindly imitate others without understanding their needs and circumstances.
- **Plot Summary**: In this heartwarming tale, an Ass becomes enamored with the beautiful singing of Grasshoppers. Eager to possess their charm, he decides to change his diet to only dew, believing it will grant him a similar voice. Unfortunately, this decision leads to his demise from hunger, illustrating the folly of imitation without understanding.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **The Ass**: Represents those who blindly follow trends or desires without considering their own nature or needs.
  - **The Grasshopper**: Symbolizes beings who are suited to their own lifestyles, reminding us that each creature has unique needs.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will understand the importance of making informed choices based on personal needs.
  - Students will analyze the consequences of imitation without understanding.
  - Students will discuss how the story relates to real-life situations.
  - Students will explore the significance of individuality in decision-making.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. Why do you think the Ass wanted to imitate the Grasshopper?
  2. What could the Ass have done differently to avoid his fate?
  3. How does this story relate to peer pressure in real life?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of "The Ass and the Grasshopper" story
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Chart paper for group discussions

✓ Original text available on the story page.