LESSON PLAN

The Ass in the Lion Skin

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–4	50 min	5

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

- Begin with a brief discussion on how we sometimes judge others based on appearances. Ask students to share instances where they were misled by someone's looks.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

- Read the fable aloud to the class. After reading, ask students to summarize the story in their own words, focusing on their interpretations of the characters' actions.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

- Divide students into small groups to discuss the character of the Ass and the Fox. Each group will create a character map detailing traits, actions, and key quotes that reveal their true nature.

10 min

Application/Reflection

- Have students write a short paragraph about a time they felt misjudged or misjudged someone else based on appearances. Encourage them to reflect on how communication can reveal true character.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

- Conduct a quick quiz with true/false statements about the story's moral and characters to gauge understanding.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Ass in the Lion Skin; Moral: Appearances can be deceiving, but true character is revealed through one's words and actions.
- **Plot Summary**: In this humorous fable, an Ass dons a Lion's skin to scare other animals in the forest. Initially successful, his ruse is ultimately uncovered by a clever Fox who recognizes the Ass by his bray, demonstrating that true character cannot be hidden by appearances.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **The Ass**: Represents foolishness and the desire for power through deception.
  - **The Lion's Skin**: Symbolizes false appearances and the superficial nature of some identities.
  - **The Fox**: Embodies wisdom and discernment, revealing the truth behind the Ass's disguise.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will identify the moral of the story.
  - Students will analyze the characters and their motivations.
  - Students will discuss the implications of appearances versus reality.
  - Students will create a modern interpretation of the fable.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  - What does the Ass learn by the end of the story?
  - How does the Fox's reaction contribute to the moral of the tale?
  - Can you think of a real-life situation where appearances were misleading?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the fable "The Ass in the Lion Skin"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pencils for student notes and exercises