LESSON PLAN

The Birds the Beasts and the Bat

GRADES
2–6

READING LEVEL
3

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme:** The Birds, the Beasts, and the Bat; Those who betray others for their own advantage will ultimately find themselves isolated and friendless.
- **Plot Summary:** In this fable, the Birds and the Beasts engage in a fierce war, with the Bat switching sides to ensure his own safety. Ultimately, his treachery is discovered by both parties, leading to his isolation and loneliness as he is shunned by those he once deceived.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance:**
  - **The Birds:** Represent loyalty and bravery.
  - **The Beasts:** Represent strength and determination.
  - **The Bat:** Embodies betrayal and the consequences of self-serving behavior.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives:**

- Students will identify the moral of the story and its relevance to real-life situations.
- Students will analyze the characters' actions and their consequences.
- Students will discuss the themes of loyalty and betrayal.
- Students will create their own moral stories reflecting the lesson learned from this fable.

- **Discussion Questions:**
  1. What motivated the Bat to switch sides during the conflict?
  2. How do the actions of the Bat reflect real-life situations of betrayal?
  3. What can we learn about friendship and trust from this story?
- **Required Materials:**
  - Copies of the fable "The Birds, the Beasts, and the Bat"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and writing materials for story creation

LESSON FLOW

- **Opening Hook (5 min):** Begin with a brief discussion on the importance of trust in friendships. Ask students if they have ever felt betrayed and how it affected their relationships.
- **Story Exploration (15-20 min):** Read the fable aloud to the class. Pause at key moments to ask questions about the characters' motivations and feelings. Encourage students to visualize the scenario.
- **Analysis Exercises (15 min):**

    - In small groups, have students discuss the Bat's decision to change sides.
    - Ask them to list the pros and cons of such behavior.
    - Have each group share their thoughts with the class.
- **Application/Reflection (10 min):**
    - Students will write a short reflection on a time they had to choose between loyalty and self-interest.
    - They may also brainstorm ways to resolve conflicts without betrayal.
- **Assessment Strategy (5 min):** Collect reflections and group lists to gauge understanding of the moral of the story and their ability to connect it with personal experiences.

SUPPORTING ELEMENTS

- **Extension Activities:**
    - Create a comic strip illustrating an alternative ending to the fable where the Bat makes a different choice.
    - Write a letter from the Bat to

✓ Original text available on the story page.