LESSON PLAN

The Bumbo of Jiam

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	5

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion on what arbitration means. Ask students if they have ever had to resolve a disagreement and how they approached it.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Bumbo of Jiam" aloud. Pause at key moments to ask students for their predictions about what might happen next and discuss the characters' motivations.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups to analyze the decisions of each character. Each group will present their findings on how these decisions affected the outcome of the story.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Facilitate a whole-class discussion on the moral of the story. Ask students to share personal experiences or current events that relate to the themes of the story.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Have students write a short paragraph summarizing the moral of the story and how it applies to a situation they are

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STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Bumbo of Jiam; Moral: Sometimes seeking resolution through arbitration can lead to greater conflict and unforeseen consequences than maintaining the status quo.
- **Plot summary**: The Pahdour of Patagascar and the Gookul of Madagonia dispute ownership of an island. They decide to settle the matter through arbitration by the Bumbo of Jiam. However, their disagreement leads to a disastrous war, prompting the Bumbo to intervene and highlight the complexities of arbitration. Ultimately, he annexes both countries, leading to a peaceful reign—until he is poisoned by his Prime Minister.
- **Key characters and their significance**:
  - **Bumbo of Jiam**: Represents the complexities of arbitration and the unintended consequences that can arise from seeking resolution.
  - **Pahdour of Patagascar**: Represents the stubbornness of leadership and the risks of conflict.

- **Gookul of Madagonia**: Symbolizes competing interests and the challenges of international relations.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will understand the moral implications of arbitration and conflict resolution.
  - Students will analyze the consequences of the characters' decisions in the story.
  - Students will discuss how the story relates to real-world situations involving disputes.
  - Students will reflect on the importance of communication in resolving conflicts.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What were the initial intentions of the Pahdour and Gookul when they sought arbitration?
  2. How did the decision to involve the Bumbo of Jiam change the course of events?
  3. Can you think of a modern example where arbitration led to unexpected consequences?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of "The Bumbo of Jiam" story
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pencils for students

✓ Original text available on the story page.