LESSON PLAN

The Cage Bird and the Bat

GRADES
2–5

READING LEVEL
2

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme:** The Cage Bird and the Bat; The moral is that taking precautions only matters before a crisis occurs; once caught, it is too late to change past actions.
- **Plot Summary:** The story follows a caged bird who only sings at night to avoid attracting predators after a previous encounter with a fowler. The Bat, hanging on the cage, points out the futility of her precautions now that she is trapped, emphasizing that it is too late to change her actions.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance:**
  - **The Cage Bird:** Represents the consequences of past actions and the importance of foresight.
  - **The Bat:** Acts as a voice of reason, highlighting that precautions should be taken before a crisis, not after.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives:**
  - Students will analyze the moral lesson of the story.

    - Students will discuss the importance of foresight and planning.
    - Students will identify examples of precaution in their own lives.
    - Students will compare the story to other short stories with moral lessons.
- **Discussion Questions:**
    - What could the Bird have done differently to avoid being captured?
    - How do the actions of the Bird and Bat relate to real-life situations?
    - Can you think of a time when taking precautions helped you avoid a problem?
- **Required Materials:**
    - Copies of 'The Cage Bird and the Bat'
    - Whiteboard and markers
    - Paper for notes and reflections

LESSON FLOW

- **Opening Hook (5 min):** Start with a humorous anecdote about a time when a lack of caution led to a funny but avoidable mistake. Engage students by asking if they've experienced anything similar.
- **Story Exploration (15-20 min):** Read the story 'The Cage Bird and the Bat' aloud. Discuss the characters and plot as a class, encouraging students to express their initial reactions.
- **Analysis Exercises (15 min):** Break students into small groups to analyze the moral of the story. Each group will create a mind map

illustrating the consequences of the Bird's choices and the Bat's advice.

- **Application/Reflection (10 min):** Have students write a short paragraph reflecting on a personal experience where they learned the importance of taking precautions before a crisis.
- **Assessment Strategy (5 min):** Use an exit ticket where students write down the moral of the story in their own words and one precaution they plan to take in their lives.

SUPPORTING ELEMENTS

- **Extension Activities:**
  - Create a humorous story with a moral of their own, inspired by 'The Cage Bird and the Bat.'
  - Role-play scenarios where students must decide on precautions in different situations.
- **Differentiation Strategies:**
  - Provide visual aids or storyboards for students who benefit from

✓ Original text available on the story page.