LESSON PLAN

The Camel and the Floating Driftwood

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
5–8	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion on the concept of fear of the unknown. Ask students if they have ever been afraid of something that turned out to be harmless.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Camel and the Floating Driftwood" aloud. Encourage students to visualize the story as they listen. After reading, ask students for their initial reactions.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

- Break students into small groups to discuss the key characters and their significance.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Ask students to reflect on their own lives. Have them write a short paragraph about a time when they were afraid of something unfamiliar. They can illustrate their paragraph with a simple drawing.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Use a quick exit ticket where students write down one thing they learned from the story and how it can apply to their life.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Camel and the Floating Driftwood - The moral of the story is that unfamiliar things often appear daunting from a distance, but upon closer inspection, they may turn out to be less significant than we initially perceived.
- **Plot Summary**: In this moral story, the first man who encounters a camel is terrified and flees, while others gradually approach and become familiar with it. The story illustrates how perceptions change with proximity and familiarity, using the metaphor of a distant object that appears mighty but is revealed to be mere driftwood.
- **Key Characters**:
  - **The Camel**: Represents the unknown and how fear of the unfamiliar can cloud judgment.
  - **The Observers**: They symbolize human curiosity and the journey from fear to understanding.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will analyze the themes of fear and familiarity in folklore and moral stories.
  - Students will discuss how perceptions change based on proximity and experience.
  - Students will identify the moral of the story and relate it to their own experiences.
  - Students will create a visual representation of their understanding of the story.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  - What does the driftwood symbolize in the story?
  - How do the characters' reactions to the camel reflect human behavior towards the unknown?
  - Can you think of a personal experience where something seemed daunting until you got closer?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Printed copies of the story
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Art supplies for visual representation activity