LESSON PLAN

The Cat and the Cock

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–4	50 min	5

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion about situations where individuals have had to defend themselves against unfair accusations. Ask students to share any personal experiences or historical examples.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read the story "The Cat and the Cock" aloud. After reading, allow students to ask questions about the plot and characters. Encourage them to share their initial thoughts on the moral of the story.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups and assign each group a character to analyze. They should discuss the character's motivations, the effectiveness of their actions, and the story's overall message. Each group will present their findings to the class.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Ask students to write a short paragraph reflecting on a time when they felt powerless against a situation, similar to the Cock. How did they respond? What did they learn from that experience?

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Conduct a quick quiz with multiple-choice questions based on the story's themes and characters to assess understanding.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Cat and the Cock; Moral: Clever excuses cannot save one from the predatory intentions of the powerful.
- **Plot Summary**: A Cat captures a Cock and seeks to justify his desire to eat him by accusing the Cock of being a nuisance to humans. Despite the Cock's defense, the Cat dismisses his arguments and proceeds to make a meal of him.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **The Cat**: Represents predatory instincts and the misuse of power.
  - **The Cock**: Symbolizes the voice of reason and the struggle against unjust accusations.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:

- Students will understand the moral implications of the story.
- Students will analyze character motivations and their consequences.
- Students will engage in critical thinking about power dynamics in relationships.
- Students will reflect on how clever excuses can sometimes mask deeper truths.

- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What does the story reveal about the nature of power and its abuse?
  2. How does the Cock attempt to defend himself, and why is his defense ultimately ineffective?
  3. Can you think of a real-life situation where someone used excuses to escape a consequence? What happened?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the story "The Cat and the Cock"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and writing instruments

✓ Original text available on the story page.