LESSON PLAN

The Cat and the Mice

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–4	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening hook

Begin with a brief discussion on trust. Ask students if they have ever been deceived and how it affected their relationships. Introduce the story as a lesson on caution after betrayal.

15–20 min

Story exploration

Read "The Cat and the Mice" aloud. Pause at key moments to discuss character actions and reactions. Show images related to the story to enhance understanding and engagement.

15 min

Analysis exercises

- Divide students into small groups to analyze the characters. Each group will discuss the Cat's intentions versus the Mice's responses.

10 min

Application/reflection

Have students write a brief reflection on what they learned about trust and caution. Encourage them to think of a situation where they had to be cautious after being deceived.

5 min

Assessment strategy

Conduct a quick class poll to see how many students understood the moral of the story. Ask them to share their reflections if time allows.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Cat and the Mice; Moral: Once deceived, one becomes extra wary and cautious of future dangers.
- **Plot summary**: In a house overrun by Mice, a crafty Cat begins to catch them one by one. When the Mice hide to escape, the Cat pretends to be dead to lure them out. However, the Mice, having learned from their previous encounters, refuse to trust her again, illustrating the moral of caution after deception.
- **Key characters and their significance**:
  - **The Cat**: Represents cunning and deception, embodying the dangers of trust when motives are hidden.
  - **The Mice**: Symbolize innocence and vulnerability, showing the need for vigilance and caution after experiencing betrayal.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning objectives**:

    - Students will identify the moral of the story.
    - Students will analyze character motivations and behaviors.
    - Students will discuss the implications of trust and deception in relationships.
    - Students will create their own short moral stories inspired by "The Cat and the Mice."
- **Discussion questions**:
    1. Why do you think the Mice chose not to trust the Cat again?
    2. How can this story relate to real-life situations where trust is broken?
    3. What are some ways we can be cautious in our own lives after being deceived?
- **Required materials**:
    - Copies of "The Cat and the Mice" short story
    - Whiteboard and markers
    - Paper and colored pencils for story creation
    - Visual aids (pictures related to the story)