LESSON PLAN

The Charcoal Burner and the Fuller

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–5	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion about friendships. Ask students to share qualities they value in their friends. Introduce the concept of compatibility in relationships.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read the story aloud to the class. After reading, ask the students to summarize the plot in their own words. Discuss the characters and their motivations.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

- Divide students into small groups. Each group will analyze the relationships depicted in the story and create a chart highlighting the traits of the Charcoal-Burner and the Fuller.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Facilitate a class discussion on how the moral of the story can be applied to real-life situations. Encourage students to share personal experiences related to the theme.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Conduct a quick quiz with multiple-choice questions about the story's plot, characters, and moral.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Charcoal Burner and the Fuller; Moral: Incompatible traits or lifestyles cannot coexist harmoniously.
- **Plot Summary**: The story follows a Charcoal-Burner who invites his friend, the Fuller, to live with him, believing they would benefit from each other's company. However, the Fuller declines, explaining that their trades are fundamentally incompatible, as the Fuller's work involves whitening while the Charcoal-Burner's work involves blackening.
- **Key Characters and their significance**:
  - **Charcoal-Burner**: Represents someone who is unaware of the impact of his lifestyle on others.
  - **Fuller**: Symbolizes the wisdom of understanding one's own boundaries and the importance of compatible relationships.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will identify the main characters and their roles in the story.
  - Students will articulate the moral of the story and its relevance in real life.
  - Students will compare and contrast the traits of the Charcoal-Burner and the Fuller.
  - Students will discuss how the story illustrates the theme of compatibility in relationships.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What do you think the Fuller meant by saying, "whatever I should whiten, you would immediately blacken again"?
  2. Can you think of a situation in your life where incompatible traits led to conflict?
  3. How can understanding this moral help us in our friendships and relationships?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the story
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pencils for students

✓ Original text available on the story page.