LESSON PLAN

The Cobbler Turned Doctor

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
5–8	50 min	5

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

- Begin with a brief discussion on what makes someone an "expert." Ask students to share any experiences they have had with trusting someone who was unqualified.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

- Read the story aloud or have students read in pairs.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

- Break students into groups and assign each group a character to analyze. Discuss motivations, actions, and the impact of their decisions on the story.

10 min

Application/Reflection

- Facilitate a class discussion on the broader implications of the story.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

- Conduct a quick quiz or a writing prompt where students express their understanding of the moral of the story.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Cobbler Turned Doctor - Moral: The folly of placing trust in unqualified individuals based on reputation rather than genuine expertise.
- **Plot summary**: A desperate cobbler, unable to make a living from his trade, begins practicing medicine without any qualifications. He gains a reputation through false claims and advertisements, only to be exposed when the Governor tests his skills. The story serves as a cautionary tale about the dangers of misplaced trust.
- **Key characters and their significance**:
  - **The Cobbler**: Represents those who overreach beyond their capabilities, highlighting the consequences of deceit.
  - **The Governor**: Symbolizes authority and the need for accountability, ultimately revealing the truth to the townspeople.
  - **The Citizens**: Reflect society's tendency to follow popular opinion, underscoring the importance of critical thinking.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:

- Students will understand the moral lesson of the story.
- Students will be able to identify the consequences of trusting unqualified individuals.
- Students will engage in discussions about the importance of expertise in various fields.
- Students will analyze the characters and their motivations in the story.

- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What are some real-life examples where people have placed trust in unqualified individuals?
  2. How can we ensure that we are making informed decisions about whom to trust?
  3. What qualities should we look for in professionals in any field?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the story "The Cobbler Turned Doctor"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pens for students

✓ Original text available on the story page.