LESSON PLAN

The Dog Who Lost His Prey for a Shadow

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–5	50 min	3

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion on the concept of "chasing shadows." Ask students if they've ever wanted something that turned out to be less valuable than it seemed. Share a personal anecdote to engage students.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read the story aloud to the class. Encourage students to visualize the scenes as you read. After finishing, ask students for their initial thoughts and feelings about the story.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups and assign them to analyze the characters. Each group will discuss the dog's motivations and the

symbolism of the reflection. Have them present their findings to the class.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Ask students to write a short paragraph about a time they may have chased after something superficial. Encourage them to reflect on what they learned from that experience.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Conduct a quick exit ticket where students write down one

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Dog Who Lost His Prey for a Shadow; The moral of the story is that in pursuit of illusions or superficial gains, one may lose what is truly valuable.
- **Plot Summary**: In this Aesop's fable, a dog carrying a piece of meat sees its reflection in the water and mistakenly believes it to be another piece of meat. In his greed, he drops his own meat to grab the reflected image, only to realize too late that he has lost both his meal and his footing.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **The Dog**: Represents greed and the folly of chasing illusions. His actions serve as a cautionary tale about the consequences of valuing appearances over reality.
  - **The Reflection**: Symbolizes superficial gains and distractions that lead to loss. It reminds readers that what seems attractive

may not hold true value.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will identify the moral lesson in the story.
  - Students will analyze the characters and their motivations.
  - Students will discuss the implications of greed in their own lives.
  - Students will connect the story to other famous moral stories.
  - Students will reflect on how to prioritize what is truly important in life.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What could the dog have done differently to keep his prey?
  2. How does this story relate to situations in your own life where you may have chased after something that wasn't real?
  3. Can you think of other childhood stories with moral lessons that convey similar themes?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of "The Dog Who Lost His Prey for a Shadow"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Chart paper and markers for group work