LESSON PLAN

The Dolphins the Whales and the Sprat

GRADES
2–5

READING LEVEL
4

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme:** The Dolphins, the Whales, and the Sprat; Pride and stubbornness can prevent resolution and lead to self-destruction.
- **Plot Summary:** In the midst of a fierce battle between the Dolphins and the Whales, a small Sprat offers to mediate and help reconcile their differences. However, the Dolphins refuse to accept help from the Sprat, choosing pride over resolution, ultimately leading to their downfall.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance:**
  - **Dolphins:** Represent pride and stubbornness, highlighting the theme of self-destruction through refusal to accept help.
  - **Whales:** Their involvement in the battle showcases the destructive nature of conflict.
  - **Sprat:** Symbolizes humility and the potential for resolution; serves as a reminder that even the smallest voices can offer valuable insights.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives:**
  - Students will understand the moral of the story and its relevance to real-life situations.
  - Students will analyze the characters' motivations and their impact on the story's outcome.
  - Students will discuss the consequences of pride and stubbornness in conflict resolution.
  - Students will create their own short tales with moral lessons inspired by the story.
- **Discussion Questions:**
  1. How does pride influence the decisions made by the Dolphins and Whales?
  2. What might have happened if the Dolphins had accepted the Sprat's help?
  3. Can you think of a situation in your own life where pride got in the way of resolving a conflict?
- **Required Materials:**
  - Copies of the story "The Dolphins, the Whales, and the Sprat"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and writing utensils for students
  - Optional: Illustrations or videos of dolphins and whales to engage students

LESSON FLOW

- **Opening Hook (5 min):**

    - Start with a humorous animal anecdote to capture students' attention and relate it to the theme of pride. Ask students what they think pride means.
- **Story Exploration (15-20 min):**
    - Read the story aloud to the class, pausing to discuss key moments. Ask for predictions and reactions as the conflict unfolds.
- **Analysis Exercises (15 min):**
    - Divide students into small groups and assign each group a character. Have them discuss the character's traits, motivations, and what their actions reveal about pride and stubbornness.
- **Application/Reflection (10 min):**
    - Regroup and ask each group to share their insights. Then, prompt students to reflect on personal experiences where pride affected their decisions.
- **Assessment Strategy (5 min):**
    - Conduct a quick exit ticket where students write one thing they