LESSON PLAN

The Fly and the Draught Mule

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–5	50 min	1

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a quick question: "Have you ever been criticized by someone you felt was insignificant? How did you react?" Allow a few students to share their experiences.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Fly and the Draught Mule" aloud. Use pictures to illustrate the story as you read, enhancing engagement and understanding.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

In pairs, students will discuss the motivations of the fly and the mule. They will then present their thoughts to the class, focusing on the significance of the mule's response.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Have students write a short paragraph on a time they faced criticism and how they chose to respond, relating it back to the moral of the story.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Each student will share one insight from their reflection, demonstrating their understanding of the moral lesson.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Fly and the Draught Mule; Moral: Those in positions of power should not be swayed by insignificant criticisms of others.
- **Plot Summary**: In this story, a fly mocks a draught mule for being slow, claiming its sting could spur the mule to go faster. However, the mule wisely ignores the fly, stating that it only listens to the driver who truly controls its pace. This tale illustrates the importance of recognizing true authority and the futility of petty criticism.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **The Fly**: Represents insignificant critics who think their words have weight.
  - **The Draught Mule**: Symbolizes individuals or leaders who understand the value of real authority and remain unaffected by trivial remarks.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will identify key themes in moral stories.
  - Students will analyze character motivations and their significance.
  - Students will discuss the implications of criticism in leadership.
  - Students will connect the moral of the story to real-life situations.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What does the fly represent in our everyday lives?
  2. How can we apply the mule's response to criticism in our own experiences?
  3. Why is it important for leaders to recognize who they should listen to?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of "The Fly and the Draught Mule" (text and pictures)
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pencils for students

✓ Original text available on the story page.