LESSON PLAN

The Fowler and the Viper

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
4–8	50 min	3

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

- Start with a brief discussion on ambitions and goals. Ask students to share their personal ambitions and any risks they perceive in pursuing them.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

- Read the story "The Fowler and the Viper" aloud to the class.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

- Divide students into small groups and provide them with guided questions to analyze the story's themes and characters.

10 min

Application/Reflection

- Have students write a short reflection on a time when they were so focused on a goal that they overlooked something important.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

- Conduct a quick quiz or a group discussion to assess understanding of the story's

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STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Fowler and the Viper; Moral: Be mindful of your surroundings, as focusing solely on your ambitions can lead to unforeseen dangers.
- **Plot summary**: A fowler, intent on catching birds, becomes so focused on the thrush he is targeting that he fails to notice a viper resting at his feet. As he steps on the snake, he is bitten and falls into a swoon, realizing too late that his single-minded pursuit has led him into peril.
- **Key characters and their significance**:
  - **The Fowler**: Represents ambition and the dangers of being overly focused on goals without awareness of one’s environment.
  - **The Viper**: Symbolizes unforeseen dangers that can threaten us when we are distracted.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:

- Students will understand the moral lesson of the story and its application to real-life scenarios.
- Students will analyze the consequences of focusing solely on ambitions without considering risks.
- Students will engage in discussions about the implications of the story in their own lives.
- Students will create connections between the fable and other thought-provoking moral stories.

- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What does the fowler's experience teach us about the importance of being aware of our surroundings?
  2. Can you think of a real-life example where someone’s ambition led them into danger?
  3. How can we balance our goals with the need to stay aware of potential risks in our lives?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the story "The Fowler and the Viper"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pencils for note-taking
  - Access to additional thought-provoking moral stories for comparison