LESSON PLAN

The Goat and the Ass

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–4	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion about envy. Ask students if they have ever felt envious and how it made them feel. Introduce the story as a unique moral story that explores this theme.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Goat and the Ass" aloud to the class. Pause at key moments to ask students how they think the characters feel and why they act the way they do.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups and assign them to discuss the characters' actions. Each group will analyze how envy influenced the Goat's advice and the Ass's decision.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Ask students to write a short paragraph reflecting on a personal experience with envy. They should connect their experience to the moral of the story.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Conclude with a quick quiz or informal assessment where students share one lesson learned from the story and how they can apply it in their lives.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Goat and the Ass; Moral: Envy can lead to harmful consequences, both for oneself and for others.
- **Plot Summary**: A Goat, envious of the Ass's abundance of food, encourages the Ass to feign illness to escape work. The Ass follows this misguided advice, resulting in injury. In a tragic twist, the Goat's life is sacrificed to heal the Ass, illustrating the dangers of envy.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **The Goat**: Represents envy and misguided advice, showing how jealousy can lead to harmful decisions.
  - **The Ass**: A victim of the Goat's envy, demonstrating the consequences of acting on bad advice.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:

- Students will identify the moral of the story and discuss its relevance.
- Students will analyze the characters' motivations and actions.
- Students will explore the impact of envy on relationships.
- Students will reflect on personal experiences related to envy and its consequences.

- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What could the Goat have done differently instead of trying to deceive the Ass?
  2. How did the Ass's decision to follow the Goat's advice affect both characters?
  3. Can you think of a time when envy led to a negative outcome in your life or someone you know?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of "The Goat and the Ass" story
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and writing utensils for students