LESSON PLAN

The Goatherd and the WildGoats

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–8	50 min	3

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion on friendship and loyalty. Ask students what they think is more important: old friends or new friends, and why.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Goatherd and the Wild Goats" aloud to the class. Pause at key moments to ask students for their thoughts on the goatherd's actions and the wild goats' responses.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups. Have them analyze the characters' motivations and the consequences of the goatherd's actions. Each group will present their findings to the class.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Ask students to write a short reflection on a personal experience related to the story. They should consider how their choices in relationships could mirror those of the goatherd.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Conduct a quick verbal quiz, asking students to summarize the moral of the story and share their reflections.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Goatherd and the Wild Goats; Prioritizing new relationships over established ones can lead to distrust and loss.
- **Plot Summary**: A goatherd encounters wild goats and decides to take them in, providing them with better care than his own goats during a snowstorm. When the snow melts, the wild goats leave, citing the goatherd's preference for new relationships over his long-standing herd as the reason for their departure.
- **Key Characters**:
  - **The Goatherd**: Represents the tendency to prioritize new relationships over established ones.
  - **The Wild Goats**: Symbolize the wisdom of maintaining loyalty and the caution that comes from being treated as an outsider.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:

    - Students will understand the importance of loyalty in relationships.
    - Students will analyze the consequences of prioritizing new relationships over established ones.
    - Students will explore the moral lesson presented in the story.
    - Students will discuss the relevance of this moral in their own lives.
- **Discussion Questions**:
    - Why do you think the wild goats felt distrustful of the goatherd?
    - Can you think of a time when you had to choose between old friends and new connections?
    - How can we ensure that we value our long-term relationships while also welcoming new ones?
- **Required Materials**:
    - Copies of the story "The Goatherd and the Wild Goats"
    - Whiteboard and markers
    - Paper and pens for note-taking

✓ Original text available on the story page.