LESSON PLAN

The Grasshopper and the Owl

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–8	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion on flattery and its common occurrences in everyday life. Ask students if they believe flattery can ever be beneficial or if it always leads to negative outcomes.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Grasshopper and the Owl" aloud to the class. Pause at key moments to discuss students' reactions and predictions about the characters' choices.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups to analyze the characters. Each group will create a character map detailing the Owl’s cunning nature and the Grasshopper’s naivety. Afterward, groups will share their findings with the class.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Have students write a short paragraph reflecting on the moral of the story. They should consider how it applies to their own lives or what they have learned about the nature of flattery.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Collect the reflection paragraphs for assessment. Provide feedback based on understanding of the moral and personal reflection.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Grasshopper and the Owl; Beware of flattery, as it can lead to your downfall.
- **Plot Summary**: In this heartwarming moral story, an Owl disturbed by a Grasshopper's relentless chirping attempts to persuade her to stop. When the Grasshopper refuses, the Owl cleverly flatters her, leading to a tragic end for the unsuspecting Grasshopper. This concise moral story serves as a reminder of the dangers of vanity and gullibility.
- **Key Characters**:
  - **Owl**: Represents wisdom and cunning, using her intelligence to teach a lesson.
  - **Grasshopper**: Symbolizes naivety and the folly of being swayed by flattery.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will identify the moral of the story and its relevance to real-life situations.
  - Students will analyze the characters' motivations and actions in the story.
  - Students will discuss the implications of flattery and its effects on decision-making.
  - Students will reflect on personal experiences where they have encountered flattery or deception.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What does the story reveal about the nature of flattery?
  2. How might the Grasshopper's fate have been different if she had listened to the Owl?
  3. Can you think of a time when you or someone else was misled by flattery? What happened?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of "The Grasshopper and the Owl"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and writing utensils for students

✓ Original text available on the story page.