LESSON PLAN

The Hardy Patriots

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion about what students think makes a story a "moral story." Ask them if they can share any very short moral stories they know and what lesson they learned from them.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Hardy Patriots" aloud to the class. Pause at key moments to ask students what they think will happen next and what they feel about the characters' decisions.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups to discuss the following:

10 min

Application/Reflection

Have students write a short paragraph reflecting on how they would respond in a similar situation to the characters in the story. Encourage them to think about the importance of resilience and hard work.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Collect the reflection paragraphs and assess

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Hardy Patriots - The moral of the story illustrates that in times of desperation, people may prefer the hardship of work over the suffering of hunger, highlighting the resilience of the human spirit in the face of adversity.
- **Plot Summary**: In this very short moral story, a Dispenser-Elect of Patronage announces that no job placements will be made until he officially takes office. A lawyer warns him that many applicants may starve before that time, prompting a conversation about the endurance of human beings when faced with hunger versus the willingness to work.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **Dispenser-Elect**: Represents authority and the disconnect between those in power and the struggles of ordinary people.
  - **Lawyer**: Serves as the voice of reason, highlighting the harsh realities many face and the potential consequences of neglecting those realities.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will analyze the themes of resilience and hardship in "The Hardy Patriots."
  - Students will identify and discuss the key characters and their roles in conveying the story's moral.
  - Students will reflect on the implications of the story's message in relation to real-world situations.
  - Students will engage in discussions about the significance of hard work and perseverance.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What does the story say about the relationship between work and survival?
  2. How do the characters in the story represent different viewpoints on hardship and resilience?
  3. In what ways can this moral story be applied to situations we see in our own lives today?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of "The Hardy Patriots"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and writing materials for students

✓ Original text available on the story page.