LESSON PLAN

The Hares and the Lions

GRADES
4–8

READING LEVEL
5

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme:** The Hares and the Lions; Moral: Strength and power often dictate the reality of equality, regardless of ideals.
- **Plot summary:** In this timeless moral story, the Hares advocate for equality among all animals, proclaiming that everyone should have equal rights. However, the Lions counter that while the Hares' words sound noble, true power and strength are necessary to enforce equality, highlighting the harsh reality of the animal kingdom.
- **Key characters and their significance:**
  - **Hares:** Represent the voice of idealism and the desire for equality among all creatures, symbolizing the importance of advocacy for fairness.
  - **Lions:** Embody strength and authority, illustrating the reality that power can overshadow ideals, and showing how might often dictates the status quo.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives:**
  - Students will understand the moral implications of the story and how power dynamics affect equality.
  - Students will analyze the characters' motivations and the societal themes represented in the story.
  - Students will connect the moral of the story to modern-day situations and discussions about equality and power.
  - Students will engage in critical thinking by formulating their perspectives on the balance of strength and ideals in society.
- **Discussion Questions:**
  - What do you think the Hares hoped to achieve with their argument for equality?
  - How do the Lions' response reflect the realities of power dynamics in our world today?
  - Can you think of any examples in modern society where power overshadows ideals of equality?
- **Required Materials:**
  - Copy of "The Hares and the Lions" story
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pencils for student notes and reflections

LESSON FLOW

- **Opening Hook (5 min):** Begin with a brief discussion about what equality means to students. Ask them to share examples of equality and inequality they see in their lives or the world around them.

- **Story Exploration (15-20 min):** Read the story "The Hares and the Lions" aloud to the class. After reading, engage students in a brief discussion about their initial reactions to the story and its key themes.
- **Analysis Exercises (15 min):** Divide students into small groups and assign them to analyze the characters—Hares and Lions. Each group will discuss the motivations of their assigned character, focusing on what they represent in terms of power and equality.
- **Application/Reflection (10 min):** Have each group present their findings to the class. Then, lead a discussion on how the themes of the story relate to modern-day situations. Encourage students to reflect on how ideals can be challenged by reality.
- **Assessment Strategy (5 min):** Conclude the lesson by asking students to write a short paragraph summarizing the moral of the story and how it