LESSON PLAN

The Hen and the Golden Eggs

GRADES	READING LEVEL
2–5	4

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme:** The Hen and the Golden Eggs; Moral: Greed can lead to the loss of steady benefits in the pursuit of immediate wealth.
- **Plot Summary:** A cottager and his wife own a hen that lays a golden egg daily. Driven by greed, they kill the hen, hoping to find a treasure inside. Instead, they discover they had sacrificed their source of wealth for a mere illusion, losing their daily fortune.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance:**
  - **Cottager:** Represents the human tendency towards greed and impatience.
  - **Wife:** Embodies the influence of shared greed in decision-making.
  - **The Hen:** Symbolizes consistent, reliable rewards that can be lost through reckless actions.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives:**
  - Students will understand the moral implications of greed as illustrated in the story.
  - Students will analyze character motivations and their consequences.
  - Students will discuss the relevance of the story in modern contexts.
  - Students will create connections between this fable and other motivational stories with moral lessons.
- **Discussion Questions:**
  1. What drove the cottager and his wife to kill the hen?
  2. How does the story reflect the consequences of greed in real life?
  3. Can you think of other famous fables with moral themes that share similarities with this story?
- **Required Materials:**
  - Copies of "The Hen and the Golden Eggs" (very short moral story)
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pens for notes

LESSON FLOW

- **Opening Hook (5 min):**
  - Begin with a brief discussion about what makes a story memorable. Ask students if they know any folklore and moral stories that convey lessons.
- **Story Exploration (15-20 min):**

    - Read "The Hen and the Golden Eggs" aloud to the class. Encourage students to visualize the characters and their emotions.
    - Discuss the storyline, asking students to share their initial thoughts and reactions.
- **Analysis Exercises (15 min):**
    - Divide students into small groups to analyze the motivations of the cottager and his wife.
    - Have each group present their findings, emphasizing how their actions led to unexpected consequences.
- **Application/Reflection (10 min):**
    - Ask students to reflect on personal experiences where they faced choices driven by impatience or greed.
    - Facilitate a discussion on how they could apply the story's moral in their everyday lives.
- **Assessment Strategy (5 min):**
    - Conclude with a quick formative assessment: each student writes one sentence summarizing the moral of the story and how it relates to their experiences.

SUPPORTING ELEMENTS

- **Extension Activities:**
    - Write a short story