LESSON PLAN

The Herdsman and the Lion

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	3

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion on the importance of understanding situations before reacting. Ask students if they've ever jumped to conclusions.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read the story aloud to the class. Encourage students to listen carefully and visualize the events. Optionally, show pictures that correspond with the story for younger students.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups to discuss the characters and the moral of the story. Ask each group to create a quick skit demonstrating the herdsman's misunderstanding.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Have students write a short paragraph reflecting on a time they misunderstood a situation and what they learned from it.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

As a class, discuss the different reflections. Assess students based on their participation and insights shared during discussions.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Herdsman and the Lion; The moral is that we often misinterpret the situation and fail to see the real truth.
- **Plot summary**: A herdsman loses a bullock and prays to the gods to reveal the thief. When a lion appears, dripping with blood, the herdsman mistakenly believes the lion is the thief and continues to pray for its removal, unaware of the irony of his situation.
- **Key characters and their significance**:
  - **The Herdsman**: Represents naivety and the tendency to overlook the obvious.
  - **The Lion**: Symbolizes strength and the harsh realities of nature, serving as a reminder of the truth we often ignore.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will understand the plot and characters of "The Herdsman and the Lion."

- Students will identify the moral of the story and its relevance to real-life situations.
- Students will analyze character motivations and their implications.
- Students will reflect on their own experiences relating to the themes in the story.

- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What can we learn from the herdsman's misunderstanding of the situation?
  2. How does this story illustrate the concept of irony?
  3. Can you relate to a time when you misunderstood a situation? How did it change your perspective?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Text of "The Herdsman and the Lion"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and writing utensils for students
  - Visual aids (optional) for younger students, such as pictures related to the story

✓ Original text available on the story page.