LESSON PLAN

The Kangaroo and the Zebra

GRADES	READING LEVEL
9+	5

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme:** The Kangaroo and the Zebra; The moral of the story is that one should be cautious in judging others based on appearances, as they may hide their true nature or intentions.
- **Plot summary:** In this short moral story, a Kangaroo, trying to make fun of a Zebra's appearance, reveals her own folly in judgment. The Zebra responds cleverly, highlighting the deceptive nature of appearances and reminding the Kangaroo that she too might be misjudged. This engaging tale teaches the importance of not jumping to conclusions based solely on looks.
- **Key characters and their significance:**
  - **Kangaroo:** Represents those who judge others superficially, showcasing the dangers of making snap judgments.
  - **Zebra:** Embodies wisdom and wit, illustrating the importance of inner qualities over outer appearances.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives:**

    - Students will understand the moral of the story and its relevance to real-life situations.
    - Students will analyze the characters' motivations and actions.
    - Students will engage in discussions about judgment and perception.
    - Students will create their own short moral stories inspired by the themes discussed.
- **Discussion Questions:**
    - What did the Kangaroo misjudge about the Zebra?
    - How did the Zebra's response challenge the Kangaroo's assumptions?
    - Can you think of a time when you or someone else was judged based on appearance?
- **Required Materials:**
    - Copies of "The Kangaroo and the Zebra"
    - Whiteboard and markers
    - Paper and pencils for story writing
    - Access to a collection of famous moral stories for reference

LESSON FLOW

- **Opening Hook (5 min):** Begin with a brief discussion about first impressions. Ask students to share a time when they were surprised by someone they initially judged based on looks.
- **Story Exploration (15-20 min):** Read "The Kangaroo and the Zebra" aloud. Pause at key moments to ask students what they think about the Kangaroo's comments and the Zebra's clever reply.

- **Analysis Exercises (15 min):**
  - Divide students into pairs to discuss the characters.
  - Each pair will identify how the Kangaroo and Zebra's traits contribute to the story's moral.
  - Ask pairs to share their insights with the class.
- **Application/Reflection (10 min):** Have students write a brief reflection on the moral of the story and how it applies to their lives. Encourage them to think of examples from their own experiences.
- **Assessment Strategy (5 min):** Collect reflections and assess understanding of the moral. Provide verbal feedback on their insights.

SUPPORTING ELEMENTS

- **Extension Activities:**
  - Students can create a visual representation (drawing or collage) that illustrates the moral of the story.

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✓ Original text available on the story page.