LESSON PLAN

The Kites and the Swans

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–4	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion about animal stories with moral lessons. Ask students if they can think of any famous fables that contain a similar theme.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read the story "The Kites and the Swans" aloud to the class. Pause at key moments to ask questions about the characters' feelings and motivations. Encourage students to share their initial thoughts.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups to discuss the key themes. Each group will create a mind map of the story, focusing on the characters, plot, and moral.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Have students reflect individually on a time they pursued something unattainable and what they learned from the experience. They can write a short paragraph about it.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Collect the mind maps and reflection paragraphs to assess students' understanding of the moral

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STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Kites and the Swans - The pursuit of unattainable desires can lead to the forfeiture of existing joys and talents.
- **Plot Summary**: In a time long ago, Kites and Swans were gifted with the ability to sing beautifully. However, upon hearing the neigh of a horse, they became enamored with the sound and attempted to imitate it. In their quest to replicate the horse's neigh, they lost their own beautiful songs, illustrating the dangers of chasing after unattainable desires at the cost of their natural gifts.
- **Key Characters and their significance**:
  - **Kites**: Represent ambition and the allure of new desires that can overshadow existing talents.
  - **Swans**: Symbolize beauty and grace, showcasing how the desire for something different can lead to losing one's inherent qualities.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will identify the main themes of the story and relate them to their own experiences.
  - Students will analyze the consequences of the Kites and Swans' actions and decisions.
  - Students will discuss the moral implications of pursuing unattainable desires.
  - Students will create a visual representation of the story's moral through art.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What do the Kites and Swans lose by trying to imitate the horse's neigh?
  2. How can we relate this story to our own lives when we desire things outside our reach?
  3. What lessons can we learn from the Kites and Swans about appreciating our own unique talents?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the story "The Kites and the Swans"
  - Art supplies (paper, markers, etc.)
  - Discussion question handout
  - Short moral stories with pictures (for reference)