LESSON PLAN

The Mirror

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	5

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion on the importance of humility. Ask students to share instances where they or someone they know overestimated their abilities.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Mirror" aloud to the class. Pause at key moments to ask questions about the characters' motivations and feelings.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

- Divide students into groups. Each group will analyze a character (Spaniel or Bulldog) and summarize their traits and actions.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Ask students to write a short paragraph reflecting on a time they faced the consequences of being overconfident or dismissive of others.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Have students submit their reflection paragraphs. Provide verbal feedback based on their understanding of the moral.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Mirror; The moral of the story is that bravado and self-importance can lead to one's own downfall when confronted with reality.
- **Plot Summary**: A proud Spaniel, believing himself superior, mistakes his reflection for another dog and boasts about his abilities. When he encounters a real Bulldog, his bravado vanishes, leading him to freeze in fear and ultimately, drop dead from shock.
- **Key Characters**:
  - **Silken-eared Spaniel**: Represents arrogance and self-importance, his downfall highlights the dangers of overestimating oneself.
  - **Bulldog**: Embodies strength and reality, serving as the catalyst for the Spaniel's realization of his limitations.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:

- Students will understand the moral of the story and its implications in real life.
- Students will analyze character traits and their development throughout the story.
- Students will discuss how bravado can lead to negative consequences.
- Students will relate the story's themes to their own experiences and actions.

- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What does the Spaniel's reaction to his reflection say about his character?
  2. How does the presence of the Bulldog change the Spaniel's attitude?
  3. Can you think of a time when you learned a lesson from your own bravado or overconfidence?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the story "The Mirror"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Reflection worksheets for students

✓ Original text available on the story page.