LESSON PLAN

The Monkey and the Nuts

GRADES	READING LEVEL
9+	5

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme:** The Monkey and the Nuts; **Moral:** Greed can lead to losing everything, as relentless demands can ultimately result in no support at all.
- **Plot Summary:** A monkey comes across a stash of nuts and, driven by greed, tries to grab as many as he can. However, his desire for more leads him to lose all the nuts he initially had. This story serves as a cautionary tale about the dangers of excessive greed.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance:**
  - **The Monkey:** Represents the pitfalls of greed and the idea that wanting too much can lead to loss.
  - **The Nuts:** Symbolize opportunities or resources that can be lost if one is not content with what they have.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives:**
  - Students will identify the moral of the story.

    - Students will analyze character actions and their consequences.
    - Students will discuss the implications of greed in real-life scenarios.
    - Students will connect the story to other very short moral stories they have read.
- **Discussion Questions:**
    - What would the monkey have done differently to keep his nuts?
    - How does this story relate to the concept of greed in our lives today?
    - Can you think of other stories that teach similar morals?
- **Required Materials:**
    - Copies of "The Monkey and the Nuts"
    - Whiteboard and markers
    - Chart paper for group activities

LESSON FLOW

- **Opening Hook (5 min):** Start with a brief discussion on what greed means. Ask students if they have ever wanted something so much that they lost something else. Share a quick personal anecdote to engage them.
- **Story Exploration (15-20 min):** Read the story aloud or have students take turns reading. Pause at key points to ask questions about the monkey's decisions and feelings. Encourage students to express their thoughts.

- **Analysis Exercises (15 min):** Divide students into small groups and assign each group a character (the monkey, the nuts) or a theme (greed, loss). Have them create a short presentation on their character's perspective and what they learned from it.
- **Application/Reflection (10 min):** Bring the class back together and have each group share their findings. Facilitate a discussion on how the story's moral can be applied in their daily lives.
- **Assessment Strategy (5 min):** Quick quiz with true/false questions about the story and its moral. Alternatively, have students write a short paragraph on what they learned.

SUPPORTING ELEMENTS

- **Extension Activities:**
  - Write a very short moral story similar to "The Monkey and the Nuts" that conveys a different moral.
  - Create a storyboard illustrating the key events in the story.
- **Differentiation Strategi**

✓ Original text available on the story page.