LESSON PLAN

The Mules and the Robbers

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–5	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion about what pride and humility mean. Ask students if they can think of a time when pride led to problems or when being humble helped them succeed.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read the story "The Mules and the Robbers" aloud to the class. As you read, pause to allow students to visualize the scenes and consider the emotions of the characters.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups. Have them discuss the traits of the two mules and how those traits influenced the outcome of the story. Each group will share their insights with the class.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Ask students to write a short paragraph reflecting on the moral of the story. Encourage them to relate it to their own experiences or a real-life situation.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Collect the reflection paragraphs to assess understanding of the story's moral and the students' ability to connect it to their own lives.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Mules and the Robbers - Pride in one's possessions can lead to danger, while humility and modesty often provide safety and peace.
- **Plot Summary**: Two mules travel together, one loaded with money and the other with grain. The proud mule flaunts his wealth, attracting robbers who attack him, while the humble mule walks calmly and escapes unscathed. In the end, the proud mule learns that his pride led him to danger.
- **Key Characters and their significance**:
  - **The Proud Mule**: Represents pride and the dangers that accompany it.
  - **The Humble Mule**: Symbolizes humility and the safety it can bring.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:

    - Students will understand the moral lesson of the story.
    - Students will identify the key characters and their traits.
    - Students will analyze the consequences of pride versus humility.
    - Students will articulate their personal reflections on the story's themes.
- **Discussion Questions**:
    - What do you think the proud mule could have done differently?
    - How does the story relate to real-life situations involving pride and humility?
    - Can you think of a time when staying humble helped you avoid a problem?
- **Required Materials**:
    - Copies of the story "The Mules and the Robbers"
    - Whiteboard and markers
    - Paper and pencils for students

✓ Original text available on the story page.