LESSON PLAN

The Old Hound

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
3–6	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Start with a funny story about a pet that faced challenges but was loved for its past antics. Ask students how they would feel if they were judged only by their current abilities or mistakes.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Old Hound" aloud to the class. After reading, ask students to summarize the story in their own words and identify the main characters.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups to discuss the hound's perspective. Each group can create a character map detailing the hound's traits, his past achievements, and how they relate to the moral of the story.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Have students write a short paragraph about a time they or someone they know was judged unfairly. Encourage them to connect it to the story's moral and share if they feel comfortable.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Conduct a quick class poll to gauge how many students agree with

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STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Old Hound - The moral is that one should be judged by their past deeds and contributions rather than their current limitations or weaknesses.
- **Plot Summary**: In his youth, a strong hound was unbeatable in the forest. However, in his old age, he encounters a boar and struggles to hold onto it because of his weakened state. Despite his effort, the boar escapes, and the hound's master scolds him. The hound defends himself by stating that his spirit remains strong, and he deserves praise for his past rather than criticism for his current limitations.
- **Key Characters**:
  - **The Old Hound**: Represents wisdom and the value of past contributions.
  - **The Boar**: Symbolizes challenges that can be harder to face as one ages.
  - **The Master**: Illustrates the tendency to judge based on current performance rather than past merits.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will understand the importance of past contributions.
  - Students will discuss how aging affects abilities and strengths.
  - Students will reflect on their own experiences with judgment and self-worth.
  - Students will analyze the hound's perspective and relate it to their own lives.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. Why do you think the master was so quick to blame the hound?
  2. How can we apply the hound's perspective to our own lives when we feel judged?
  3. Can you think of a time when you or someone else was unfairly judged based on current abilities rather than past achievements?
- **Required Materials**:
  - A copy of "The Old Hound" story.
  - Whiteboard and markers.
  - Paper and drawing supplies for extension activities.

✓ Original text available on the story page.