LESSON PLAN

The Old Lion

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–8	50 min	5

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion about what makes someone strong or powerful. Ask students if they think power can be taken away and how that might feel.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Old Lion" aloud to the class. Encourage students to listen for the key events and the emotions expressed by the lion as he faces humiliation.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups to discuss the characters and their motivations. Each group should identify specific lines from the story that highlight the lion's feelings and the actions of the other animals.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Have students reflect on the moral of the story. Ask them to write a short paragraph about a time they witnessed or experienced a similar situation, relating it back to the story's themes.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Have students share their reflections with the class. Assess their understanding based on participation and the relevance of their examples to the story's moral.

---

1. STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Old Lion; Moral: Even the mighty can be humiliated in their weakness, particularly by those who are lesser.
- **Plot Summary**: The story follows an aging lion who, weakened by age and illness, finds himself at the mercy of other animals he once dominated. As he is attacked by a boar, a bull, and finally a donkey, he reflects on the indignity of being humiliated by those he once considered beneath him.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **The Lion**: Represents strength and majesty, now reduced to a vulnerable state.
  - **The Boar**: Symbolizes revenge and the consequences of past actions.
  - **The Bull**: Embodies brute force and the willingness to exploit weakness.

- **The Ass**: Represents the idea that even the lowly can take advantage of those who have fallen from grace.

2. LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will understand the moral implications of the story.
  - Students will identify the key characters and their roles.
  - Students will analyze how strength can turn into weakness over time.
  - Students will discuss the significance of humility and respect.
  - Students will relate the story's moral to real-life situations.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What does the story teach us about the nature of power and vulnerability?
  2. How do the actions of the other animals reflect the theme of the story?
  3. Can you think of a time when someone was humbled despite their previous strength?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of "The Old Lion" story.
  - Whiteboard and markers.
  - Paper and pencils for students.

3. LESSON FLOW

- **Opening Hook (5 min)**: Begin with a brief discussion about what makes someone strong or powerful. Ask students if they think

power can be taken away and how that might feel.

- **Story Exploration (15-20 min)**: Read "The Old Lion" aloud to the class. Encourage students to listen for the key events and the emotions expressed by the lion as he faces humiliation.
- **Analysis Exercises (15 min)**: Divide students into small groups to discuss the characters and their motivations. Each group should identify specific lines from the story that highlight the lion's feelings and the actions of the other animals.
- **Application/Reflection (10 min)**: Have students reflect on the moral of the story. Ask them to write a short paragraph about a time they witnessed or experienced a similar situation, relating it back to the story's themes.
- **Assessment Strategy (5 min)**: Have students share their reflections with the class. Assess their understanding based on participation and the relevance of their examples to the story's moral.

##

✓ Original text available on the story page.