LESSON PLAN

The Ox and the Frog

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–5	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Start with a brief discussion on animals and their unique characteristics. Ask students if they think it's important to embrace our differences.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Ox and the Frog" aloud to the class. After reading, ask students to summarize the plot in their own words.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Break students into small groups to discuss the characters and their motivations. Have each group present their findings and insights on the story's moral.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Guide a class discussion about how the moral of the story can apply to their lives. Encourage students to share personal experiences related to the theme.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Conclude with a quick reflection where students write a few sentences about what they learned from the story and how they can apply the moral in their lives.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Ox and the Frog; One should not attempt to imitate or compete with those who are vastly greater or different in nature, as it can lead to one's own detriment.
- **Plot Summary**: In this fable, a mother frog learns that her son has been crushed to death by an enormous ox. In her grief, she tries to puff herself up to match the size of the ox, but her son advises against this, highlighting the futility and danger of such an attempt.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **The Ox**: Represents strength and size, illustrating the theme of natural differences.
  - **The Mother Frog**: Embodies the desire to compete or compare oneself with others, often leading to negative consequences.
  - **The Son Frog**: Acts as a voice of reason, emphasizing the importance of understanding one’s limitations.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will understand the moral of the story and its implications in real life.
  - Students will identify the key characters and their roles within the story.
  - Students will analyze the theme of the story and relate it to their own experiences.
  - Students will develop critical thinking skills through discussion and reflection on the story's message.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What does the story teach us about comparing ourselves to others?
  2. How might the outcome have changed if the mother frog had accepted her size instead of trying to imitate the ox?
  3. Can you think of a time when you tried to be something you are not? What did you learn from that experience?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of "The Ox and the Frog" short story.
  - Whiteboard and markers.
  - Paper and writing utensils for students.

✓ Original text available on the story page.