LESSON PLAN

The Politicians and the Plunder

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	5

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

- Begin with a brief discussion on what students think about politicians and trust. Ask them to share any recent news stories about political corruption.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

- Read the story aloud or have students read in pairs. Pause to discuss key events and characters as they arise.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

- Break students into small groups. Assign each group a character to analyze how that character represents a different aspect of political corruption.

10 min

Application/Reflection

- Have students write a short reflection on how the story's themes relate to their understanding of governance and integrity. Encourage them to draw parallels to their own lives or current events.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

- Conduct a quick formative assessment through a show of hands: "Who thinks political integrity is important?" Follow up with a few students to share their thoughts.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Politicians and the Plunder; **Moral**: Political corruption and self-interest lead to the exploitation of public resources, eroding public trust and integrity in governance.
- **Plot Summary**: In a fictional political setting, various political figures negotiate the division of public resources for personal gain. The narrative highlights their self-serving intentions and the implications of their decisions on public trust.
- **Key Characters**:
  - **Decent Respect for Public Opinion**: Represents the facade of integrity in politics.
  - **Blotted Escutcheon**: Symbolizes the tarnished reputation that comes with corruption.
  - **Soiled Ermine**: Embodies the compromised legal system.
  - **Political Pot**: Illustrates the dependency on corrupt practices for sustenance.

- **Cohesive Power of Public Plunder**: Represents the collective corruption in governance.
- **Depth of Degradation**: The embodiment of moral decay in political actions.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will identify the main theme of the story.
  - Students will analyze the characters and their roles in political corruption.
  - Students will discuss the impact of self-interest on public trust.
  - Students will reflect on the moral lessons applicable to contemporary governance.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  - What are the consequences of political corruption as depicted in the story?
  - How do the characters' actions reflect real-world political scenarios?
  - What lessons can young readers take away regarding integrity and public service?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of "The Politicians and the Plunder"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pens for student reflections

✓ Original text available on the story page.