LESSON PLAN

The Politicians

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	5

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion on what motivates people to pursue their goals. Ask students if they've ever felt drawn to something that seemed perfect at first but later proved challenging.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read the story aloud. Pause at key moments to discuss the feelings and thoughts of both politicians, emphasizing the contrasts between ambition and wisdom.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

- Divide students into small groups to identify the key messages of the story.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Have students write a short paragraph reflecting on a personal experience where ambition led them to a pivotal decision. Encourage them to relate it back to the story.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Conduct a quick exit ticket where students write one lesson they learned from the story and how it applies to their lives.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Politicians; The pursuit of political ambition can lead to disillusionment, as achieving one's goals may not bring the fulfillment one expects.
- **Plot Summary**: An Old Politician and a Young Politician travel through a beautiful landscape toward a city promising prosperity. The Young Politician is tempted by the allure of immediate pleasure and political distinction, while the Old Politician warns him of the dangers inherent in such pursuits.
- **Key Characters**:
  - **Old Politician**: Represents wisdom and experience, understanding the true cost of ambition.
  - **Young Politician**: Embodies youthful aspiration and naivety, eager for recognition but unaware of the potential disillusionment.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will analyze the moral lessons conveyed through the characters' choices.
  - Students will discuss the implications of political ambition in relation to personal fulfillment.
  - Students will reflect on the importance of wisdom in decision-making.
  - Students will create connections between the story and contemporary political examples.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What does the journey of the two politicians symbolize in our lives?
  2. How can the allure of ambition distract us from our true goals?
  3. In what ways can the experiences of the Young Politician serve as a warning for young leaders today?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the story "The Politicians"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Journals for reflections

✓ Original text available on the story page.