LESSON PLAN

The Power of the Scalawag

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	5

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion on what makes a story memorable. Ask students to share their favorite moral stories and the lessons they learned from them.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Power of the Scalawag" aloud to the class. After reading, discuss the plot and characters, focusing on their significance and the moral theme.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups and assign them to analyze specific lines from the story. Each group will discuss the implications of those lines and how they relate to the overall moral.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Have students write a short reflection on a time when they witnessed the consequences of greed or dishonesty in their own lives or in the lives of others. Encourage them to connect their experiences to the story.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Use a quick exit ticket where students write down one lesson learned from the story and one way they can apply it in their daily lives.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Power of the Scalawag; Moral: Those who destroy the hard work and achievements of others, often out of greed or dishonesty, will ultimately face their own downfall.
- **Plot Summary**: In this story, a Forestry Commissioner fells a giant tree, symbolizing the destruction of nature's hard work. When an honest man approaches, the Commissioner, realizing the gravity of his actions, flees. Upon returning, he finds a powerful message inscribed on the tree stump, highlighting the consequences of his greed and dishonesty.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **Forestry Commissioner**: Represents greed and dishonesty, illustrating how destructive behaviors lead to one's downfall.
  - **Honest Man**: Symbolizes integrity and the importance of valuing hard work, serving as a contrast to the Commissioner.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will understand the moral of the story and its relevance in real life.
  - Students will identify the key themes and characters in "The Power of the Scalawag."
  - Students will analyze the consequences of greed and dishonesty as depicted in the story.
  - Students will discuss the lessons learned from stories and how they can apply to their own lives.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What does the inscription on the tree stump reveal about the nature of consequences?
  2. How can we relate the actions of the Forestry Commissioner to real-life situations?
  3. What are some simple lessons from stories like this that can guide our behavior?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of "The Power of the Scalawag"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pens for students

✓ Original text available on the story page.