LESSON PLAN

The Rainmaker

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	5

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion on the importance of rain for life and agriculture. Ask students if they think they can influence the weather and what they would do if they could.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Rainmaker" aloud to the class. Use pictures to illustrate key scenes, making the story engaging and relatable. Pause at significant moments to ask questions and gauge understanding.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

- Divide students into small groups and assign each group a character to analyze.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Have a class discussion about personal experiences where humility or faith played a role in their lives. Encourage students to share short and sweet moral stories from their own experiences, linking back to the themes of the lesson.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Conclude with a quick quiz or reflection journal entry where students write one thing they learned about humility and one way they can apply that lesson in their daily lives.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Rainmaker - True humility and belief can yield unexpected blessings, even in seemingly absurd circumstances.
- **Plot summary**: An ambitious government officer attempts to bring rain to a drought-stricken desert using elaborate and expensive equipment. After a series of explosions, a downpour occurs, but instead of celebrating, the sole survivor, a humble mule-driver, credits his fervent prayers for the rain. This highlights the power of faith and humility.
- **Key characters**:
  - **The Officer**: Represents human ambition and the desire to control nature.
  - **The Mule-Driver (Rev. Ezekiel Thrifft)**: Symbolizes faith, humility, and the unexpected sources of true strength.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will understand the central moral of the story.
  - Students will identify the key characters and their significance in the narrative.
  - Students will analyze the themes of humility and faith in the context of the story.
  - Students will relate the lessons from the story to their own lives.
  - Students will discuss how simple lessons from stories can be impactful.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What do you think the author is trying to teach us about humility?
  2. How can faith play a role in overcoming difficult situations?
  3. Why do you think the mule-driver was able to bring the rain while the officer failed?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of "The Rainmaker" story
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pencils
  - Pictures depicting scenes from the story (optional for visual aid)

✓ Original text available on the story page.