LESSON PLAN

The Rich Man and the Tanner

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–6	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening hook

Begin with a brief discussion on smells that might be unpleasant (e.g., garbage, certain foods). Ask students how they react to such smells and if they can get used to them over time.

15–20 min

Story exploration

Read the story "The Rich Man and the Tanner" aloud to the class. After reading, engage students in a discussion about their initial thoughts and feelings regarding the story.

15 min

Analysis exercises

Divide students into small groups and assign them to identify the moral of the story. Each group will create a visual representation (drawing or chart) that illustrates the main theme and characters.

10 min

Application/reflection

Ask students to write a brief paragraph about a situation in their lives where they learned to tolerate something uncomfortable. Encourage sharing these reflections with a partner.

5 min

Assessment strategy

Conclude with a quick quiz where students must match characters to their descriptions and recall the moral of the story.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Rich Man and the Tanner; Moral: People can adapt to discomfort and learn to tolerate what initially bothers them.
- **Plot summary**: A wealthy man is disturbed by the unpleasant smell from his neighbor's tanning yard. He urges the tanner to leave, but the tanner delays his departure. Eventually, the rich man becomes accustomed to the smell and stops complaining, illustrating human adaptability.
- **Key characters and their significance**:
  - **The Rich Man**: Represents those who are sensitive to discomfort and quick to complain.
  - **The Tanner**: Symbolizes resilience and the ability to endure difficult circumstances.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning objectives**:

    - Students will understand the moral of the story and its relevance to everyday life.
    - Students will identify the key characters and their roles in the narrative.
    - Students will discuss the themes of tolerance and adaptability.
    - Students will reflect on personal experiences related to discomfort and adaptation.
- **Discussion questions**:
    - Why do you think the rich man was initially bothered by the smell?
    - Can you think of a time when you adapted to something that bothered you?
    - What lesson can we learn from the rich man and the tanner regarding discomfort?
- **Required materials**:
    - Copies of the story "The Rich Man and the Tanner"
    - Chart paper and markers for group work
    - Whiteboard and markers for class discussion