LESSON PLAN

The Scorpion and the Ladybug

GRADES
3–8

READING LEVEL
3

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme:** The Scorpion and the Ladybug; The moral of the story is that one's inherent nature cannot be changed, even in the face of loyalty or promises.
- **Plot summary:** A Scorpion forms a friendship with a Ladybug and offers to help her cross a dangerous river. Despite his promise not to harm her, he ultimately stings her, revealing that he cannot change his true nature.
- **Key characters and their significance:**
  - **The Scorpion:** Represents the idea that inherent traits cannot be altered, symbolizing betrayal and the danger of trusting those whose nature is harmful.
  - **The Ladybug:** Embodies innocence and trust, highlighting the vulnerability of those who believe in the goodness of others.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives:**

- Students will understand the concept of inherent nature and its implications in relationships.
- Students will analyze the characters' motivations and actions in the story.
- Students will explore the moral lessons that can be derived from the tale.
- Students will reflect on personal experiences related to trust and betrayal.

- **Discussion Questions:**
  1. Why do you think the Ladybug chose to trust the Scorpion despite his nature?
  2. Can people change their inherent nature? Why or why not?
  3. What lessons can we learn from the story about trust and relationships?
- **Required Materials:**
  - Copies of the story "The Scorpion and the Ladybug"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Journals or paper for reflection

LESSON FLOW

- **Opening Hook (5 min):**
  - Start with a brief discussion on trust. Ask students if they have ever trusted someone who let them down and how it made them feel.
- **Story Exploration (15-20 min):**
  - Read "The Scorpion and the Ladybug" aloud. After the reading, ask students to summarize the story in their own words and

identify the key characters.

- **Analysis Exercises (15 min):**
  - Divide students into small groups and assign each group a key character (Scorpion or Ladybug). Have them discuss the character's motivations and how these led to the story's outcome. Each group will then share their insights with the class.
- **Application/Reflection (10 min):**
  - Ask students to write a short reflection on a time when they had to decide whether to trust someone. Encourage them to consider what they learned from that experience.
- **Assessment Strategy (5 min):**
  - Conduct a quick class poll to see how many students agree with the moral of the story. Follow up with a few students to explain their reasoning.

SUPPORTING ELEMENTS

- **Extension Activities:**
  1. Write a new ending for the story where the Scorpion