LESSON PLAN

The Shepherd and the Wolf

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–5	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion on the concept of mentorship and ask students if they have ever learned something from someone that had unexpected consequences. Share a quick read story with a moral to illustrate the topic.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Shepherd and the Wolf" aloud. After reading, ask students to summarize the plot and identify the main characters. Discuss the story’s setting and context within folklore and moral stories.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Break students into small groups to analyze the shepherd's and the wolf's motivations. Each group will create a character map that illustrates the relationships and consequences of actions in the story.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Regroup and have each group share their findings. Encourage students to relate the moral of the story to their own lives, discussing real-world scenarios where teaching or enabling negative behavior could lead to unintended consequences.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Conduct a quick quiz or poll to gauge understanding of the story's moral and characters. Have students write down one takeaway lesson from the fable.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Shepherd and the Wolf; The moral of the story is that teaching someone to do wrong can ultimately lead to one's own downfall.
- **Plot Summary**: A shepherd finds a wolf's whelp and raises it, teaching it to steal lambs from neighboring flocks. As the wolf becomes skilled at thievery, it warns the shepherd to be cautious, revealing that the shepherd's actions may lead to his own loss.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **The Shepherd**: Represents the naive mentor whose misguided teaching brings about his own potential ruin.
  - **The Wolf**: Symbolizes the consequences of wrongdoing and betrayal, showcasing how bad habits can turn against the one who nurtures them.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will understand the moral implications of the story.
  - Students will analyze the characters' motivations and consequences of their actions.
  - Students will connect the story to real-life situations involving trust and betrayal.
  - Students will reflect on the importance of making ethical choices and the potential impact on personal growth.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  - What lessons can we learn from the relationship between the shepherd and the wolf?
  - How does the wolf's warning reflect the consequences of unethical behavior?
  - In what ways can this fable relate to other famous fables with moral lessons?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the story "The Shepherd and the Wolf"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and writing utensils for students
  - Examples of other short stories to learn morals