LESSON PLAN

The Stag in the Ox-Stall

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–5	50 min	3

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion on the concept of safety. Ask students to share instances where they felt safe but realized later they were in danger. Relate this to the story's theme.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read the story aloud to the class. Pause to discuss key plot points and character motivations. Encourage students to think critically about the Stag's choices.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

- Divide students into small groups. Assign each group a character to analyze, focusing on their motivations and the consequences of their actions.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Have students write a brief reflection on the moral of the story. Encourage them to relate it to their personal experiences or current events.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Conduct a quick quiz with questions about the story's plot, characters, and moral. Use this to gauge understanding.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Stag in the Ox-Stall; Moral: One cannot escape danger by hiding among enemies, as true safety requires vigilance and awareness of the surrounding threats.
- **Plot Summary**: A frightened Stag, chased by hounds, seeks refuge in a farmyard among the Oxen. Despite the Ox's warnings about the dangers of hiding in the enemy's territory, the Stag believes he is safe. However, he ultimately faces a greater threat when the master of the farm arrives and discovers him.
- **Key Characters**:
  - **The Stag**: Represents those who seek refuge in unsafe places out of fear.
  - **The Ox**: Serves as a voice of caution, emphasizing the dangers of ignoring true threats.
  - **The Farmer**: Personifies the ultimate danger that the Stag underestimated.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will identify the main characters and their roles in the story.
  - Students will analyze the moral of the story and relate it to real-life situations.
  - Students will discuss the implications of seeking safety in dangerous places.
  - Students will create a modern adaptation of the story to explore its themes further.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What does the Stag’s decision to hide in the Ox-Stall reveal about his character?
  2. How does the Ox's warning illustrate the theme of vigilance?
  3. Can you think of a time when you felt safe but were actually in danger? What happened?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the story "The Stag in the Ox-Stall"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pencils for students

✓ Original text available on the story page.