LESSON PLAN

The Stag the Wolf and the Sheep

GRADES
2–4

READING LEVEL
3

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme:** The Stag, the Wolf, and the Sheep; Moral: One should be cautious in trusting those who are untrustworthy, as their combined deceit can lead to greater trouble.
- **Plot Summary:** In this classic moral story, a Stag seeks a loan of wheat from a Sheep, assuring her that the Wolf will guarantee the loan. The cautious Sheep declines, recognizing the untrustworthy nature of both the Stag and the Wolf. The story emphasizes the importance of being wary of deceitful characters.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance:**
  - **The Stag:** Represents those who may seem trustworthy but have ulterior motives.
  - **The Wolf:** Embodies deceit and treachery, highlighting the danger of trusting known tricksters.
  - **The Sheep:** Symbolizes caution and wisdom, illustrating the importance of discernment in relationships.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives:**
  - Students will identify the key characters and their traits in the story.
  - Students will analyze the moral implications of the plot.
  - Students will discuss the relevance of the story in today's context.
  - Students will create their own examples of trust and deceit in relationships.
- **Discussion Questions:**
  1. Why do you think the Sheep was hesitant to lend the wheat?
  2. What can we learn from the characters' interactions about trust?
  3. Can you think of a real-life situation where trusting the wrong person led to a problem?
- **Required Materials:**
  - Copies of the story "The Stag, the Wolf, and the Sheep"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pens for students

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. Share a personal anecdote to engage them.
- **Story Exploration (15-20 min):**
  - Read the story aloud to the class.
  - Pause at key moments to ask students for their predictions or thoughts on what might happen next.

- **Analysis Exercises (15 min):**
  - Divide students into small groups to discuss the characters and their motivations.
  - Have each group present their insights on how the characters' traits contributed to the moral of the story.
- **Application/Reflection (10 min):**
  - Ask students to write a short paragraph describing a time when they had to decide whether to trust someone. What did they learn from that experience?
- **Assessment Strategy (5 min):**
  - Use a quick exit ticket where each student writes down one lesson they learned from the story and how they can apply it in their lives.

SUPPORTING ELEMENTS

- **Extension Activities:**