LESSON PLAN

The Swollen Fox

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–4	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion on the importance of moral stories in teaching life lessons. Ask students if they have ever faced a situation where their choices led to unintended consequences.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Swollen Fox" aloud to the class. Encourage students to visualize the characters and setting as they listen. After reading, ask students to summarize the story in their own words.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups. Assign each group to analyze either the Hungry Fox or the Passing Fox. They should discuss their character's motivations, actions, and the moral implications of these actions. Groups will present their findings to the class.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Bring the class back together for a discussion on how the moral of this story applies to their own lives. Prompt them to think of examples where they may have experienced similar situations of overindulgence or decision-making.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Assess student understanding through a quick exit ticket where students write down one lesson they learned from the story and how they can apply it in their lives.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Swollen Fox; Moral: Indulgence can lead to entrapment; to escape difficult situations, one must often return to their original state.
- **Plot Summary**: In this timeless moral story, a fox finds leftover food in the hollow of an oak and indulges himself to the point of being unable to escape. His predicament serves as a cautionary tale about the consequences of overindulgence and the importance of self-control.
- **Key Characters and their significance**:
  - **The Hungry Fox**: Represents the dangers of indulgence and lack of foresight.
  - **The Passing Fox**: Acts as a voice of reason, highlighting the importance of self-awareness and returning to one's roots to find solutions.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will identify the moral of the story and its implications.
  - Students will analyze the characters' actions and their consequences.
  - Students will discuss how the themes of this story relate to their own lives.
  - Students will compare this story with other folklore and moral stories.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  - What does the story teach us about the consequences of overindulgence?
  - How can we apply the fox's situation to real-life scenarios?
  - In what ways does this story reflect common themes found in other moral stories?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of "The Swollen Fox"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pencils for notes and reflections

✓ Original text available on the story page.