LESSON PLAN

# The Thief and His Mother

| GRADES | TIME | READING LEVEL |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 5–8 | 50 min | 2 |

## Lesson flow




5 min

### Opening Hook

- Begin with a brief discussion about the importance of teaching children right from wrong. Ask students if they have ever witnessed someone being encouraged to do something wrong.

15–20 min

### Story Exploration

- Read the story aloud. After reading, engage the class in a discussion about their initial reactions to the characters and plot.

15 min

### Analysis Exercises

- Divide students into small groups to analyze the motivations of the mother and the boy. Each group will present their findings and discuss how these motivations led to the eventual outcome.

10 min

### Application/Reflection

- Have students write a short paragraph reflecting on how they would handle a similar situation if they were the mother or the boy. Encourage them to think about the consequences of their actions.

5 min

### Assessment Strategy

- Conclude with a quick quiz or oral assessment where students summarize the moral of the story and share one insight they gained from the lesson.

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# 1. STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Thief and His Mother; Moral: Failing to correct negative behavior early on can lead to severe consequences later in life.
- **Plot Summary**: A young boy begins by stealing a lesson-book from a classmate and receives encouragement from his mother. This prompts a pattern of theft that escalates until he faces execution. In a moment of despair, he bites off his mother's ear, blaming her for not correcting his actions sooner.
- **Key Characters**:
  - **The Boy**: Represents the consequences of unchecked behavior.
  - **The Mother**: Symbolizes the role of parental guidance and the impact of enabling negative actions.

# 2. LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:

- Students will understand the moral implications of the story.
- Students will analyze the characters' roles and their effects on the plot.
- Students will discuss the consequences of inaction in parenting.
- Students will relate the story to modern-day ethical dilemmas.

- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What could the mother have done differently to change the outcome of the story?
  2. How does this story reflect on the importance of moral education in childhood?
  3. Can you think of a situation in real life where ignoring bad behavior led to larger problems?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the story "The Thief and His Mother"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pencils for notes and reflections

# 3. LESSON FLOW

- **Opening Hook (5 min)**:
  - Begin with a brief discussion about the importance of teaching children right from wrong. Ask students if they have ever witnessed someone being encouraged to do something wrong.
- **Story Exploration (15-20 min)**:
  - Read the story aloud. After reading, engage the class in a discussion about their initial reactions to the characters and plot.

- **Analysis Exercises (15 min)**:
  - Divide students into small groups to analyze the motivations of the mother and the boy. Each group will present their findings and discuss how these motivations led to the eventual outcome.
- **Application/Reflection (10 min)**:
  - Have students write a short paragraph reflecting on how they would handle a similar situation if they were the mother or the boy. Encourage them to think about the consequences of their actions.
- **Assessment Strategy (5 min)**:
  - Conclude with a quick quiz or oral assessment where students summarize the moral of the story and share one insight they gained from the lesson.

# 4. SUPPORTING ELEMENTS

- **Extension Activities**:
  - Students can create a modern retelling of the story, placing it in a contemporary context.
  - Organize a debate on the responsibilities of parents in

✓ Original text available on the story page.