LESSON PLAN

The Tree and the Reed

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–5	50 min	3

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion about pride and humility. Ask students to share examples of situations where being adaptable was beneficial.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Tree and the Reed" aloud to the class. After reading, engage the class in a discussion about their initial reactions to the story.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

- **Character Analysis**: In pairs, students will create a Venn diagram comparing the Tree and the Reed.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Have students write a short paragraph reflecting on a personal experience where adaptability helped them overcome a challenge, linking it back to the moral of the story.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Collect reflection paragraphs and assess them based on understanding of the moral and personal connection made to the story.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Tree and the Reed; The moral of the story is that humility and adaptability can be more valuable than pride and grandeur, as they often provide safety in the face of adversity.
- **Plot Summary**: In a conversation between a proud Tree and a humble Reed, the Tree boasts about its grandeur and strength. The Reed, on the other hand, expresses contentment with its modest stature and adaptability. When a fierce hurricane strikes, the Tree is uprooted while the Reed bends with the wind, demonstrating the importance of humility and resilience.
- **Key Characters and their significance**:
  - **The Tree**: Represents pride and arrogance; serves as a warning against overconfidence.
  - **The Reed**: Embodies humility and adaptability; highlights the value of being flexible in difficult situations.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will identify the moral of the story and its relevance to their own lives.
  - Students will compare and contrast the characters of the Tree and the Reed.
  - Students will analyze how the story's events illustrate the theme of humility versus pride.
  - Students will reflect on personal experiences where adaptability played a crucial role in overcoming challenges.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What characteristics of the Tree and the Reed stand out to you, and why?
  2. How does the outcome of the story reflect on the importance of humility?
  3. Can you think of a time when being adaptable helped you or someone you know?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of "The Tree and the Reed" story
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pencils for students
  - Optional: Art supplies for extension activities

✓ Original text available on the story page.