LESSON PLAN

The Two Dogs

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–5	50 min	5

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Start with a question to the class: "Have you ever felt that someone else got more than they deserved?" Allow a few students to share their thoughts before introducing the story.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Two Dogs" aloud. Pause to discuss key moments and ask students what they think about the actions of the Hound and the Housedog.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

In pairs, have students discuss the motivations of each dog. Ask them to identify the moral of the story and how it applies to real-life situations.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Have students write a short paragraph about a time they felt they were not responsible for something that happened in their life, relating it back to the story.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Collect the reflection paragraphs to assess understanding of the moral and its application.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Two Dogs; Children should not be held responsible for the circumstances or shortcomings imposed upon them by their parents.
- **Plot Summary**: In this easy small story with moral, a man has two dogs: a Hound that helps him hunt and a Housedog that guards the home. The Hound complains about the Housedog receiving food without working for it. The Housedog explains that it's not his fault; he was never taught to hunt, just to depend on the Hound’s efforts. This highlights the theme that children shouldn't be blamed for their parents' choices.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **Hound**: Represents those who work hard but feel unfairly treated when others benefit from their efforts.
  - **Housedog**: Symbolizes individuals who are shaped by their upbringing and circumstances, illustrating that not all are taught the same skills or values.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will understand the moral of "The Two Dogs" and its implications.
  - Students will discuss how upbringing can affect a person's abilities and choices.
  - Students will analyze the characters' perspectives and motivations.
  - Students will reflect on their own experiences related to fairness and responsibility.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. Why does the Hound feel resentful towards the Housedog?
  2. How does the Housedog's response change your perspective on responsibility?
  3. Can you think of a time when you felt unfairly treated? How does this story relate to that experience?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of "The Two Dogs" story
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pens for students

✓ Original text available on the story page.