LESSON PLAN

The Wasp and the Snake

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–6	50 min	5

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening hook

Start with a thought-provoking question: "Have you ever felt trapped by someone’s actions? How did you respond?" Engage students by sharing a brief personal anecdote related to overcoming conflicts.

15–20 min

Story exploration

Read the story aloud, allowing students to visualize the characters and settings. Pause to ask students about their initial reactions to the snake's decision and the wasp's behavior.

15 min

Analysis exercises

Divide students into small groups to analyze the story. Provide them with worksheets that prompt them to identify character traits, motivations, and the moral of the story. Encourage them to relate these elements to their own experiences.

10 min

Application/reflection

Have each group share their insights. Lead a class discussion on how the moral can be applied in real-life situations, such as dealing with bullying or conflict resolution.

5 min

Assessment strategy

Conclude with a quick quiz or reflection exercise asking students to summarize the moral of the story and how it applies to their own lives.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Wasp and the Snake; The moral of the story is that sometimes, in the face of relentless torment, one may choose to take drastic measures that lead to mutual destruction rather than endure suffering alone.
- **Plot summary**: In this intense tale, a wasp relentlessly torments a snake by stinging it repeatedly. Despite the snake's struggle to escape, it ultimately decides that if it cannot rid itself of the wasp, it would rather perish than continue to suffer alone. In a tragic twist, the snake places its head under a wagon wheel, ensuring their mutual demise.
- **Key characters and their significance**:
  - **The Wasp**: Represents relentless torment and cruelty, showcasing how unchecked aggression can lead to dire consequences.
  - **The Snake**: Embodies the victim of torment who, when pushed to the brink, resorts to drastic measures, illustrating the theme

of suffering and desperation.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning objectives**:
  - Students will analyze the characters and their motivations in the story.
  - Students will discuss the implications of choosing mutual destruction over individual suffering.
  - Students will identify the moral lessons and relate them to real-life situations.
  - Students will reflect on how the story can inspire personal growth and resilience.
- **Discussion questions**:
  - What might the snake have done differently to escape the wasp's torment?
  - How does the story illustrate the consequences of revenge or extreme actions?
  - In what ways can this story relate to modern-day situations of bullying or harassment?
- **Required materials**:
  - A printed copy of "The Wasp and the Snake"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Worksheets for analysis exercises

✓ Original text available on the story page.