LESSON PLAN

The Weasel and the Mice

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
2–5	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Start with a brief discussion on the phrase "Don't judge a book by its cover." Ask students to share experiences where they misjudged someone or something based on appearances.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Weasel and the Mice" aloud. After reading, have students summarize the story in their own words and highlight key events.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups. Assign each group a character to analyze (the weasel, the mice, and the old mouse). Ask them to discuss the character's actions, motivations, and the consequences of those actions.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Bring the class back together and share group findings. Then, have students write a short paragraph about a time they encountered deception and how they learned from it.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Use an exit ticket where each student writes down one lesson learned from the story and one question they still have.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Weasel and the Mice; Moral: Appearances can be deceiving, and one should be cautious of what seems too good to be true.
- **Plot Summary**: An aged weasel, unable to hunt, disguises himself in flour to lure unsuspecting mice. Several mice fall for the ruse and meet their demise. However, an old mouse, wise to the weasel's trickery, observes the events from a distance, cautioning others about the danger of deception.
- **Key Characters and their Significance**:
  - **The Weasel**: Represents deceit and the lengths one might go to for survival.
  - **The Mice**: Symbolize innocence and vulnerability, showcasing the consequences of blind trust.
  - **The Old Mouse**: Embodies wisdom and caution, serving as a voice of reason.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will identify the moral of the story and its relevance.
  - Students will analyze character motivations and their implications.
  - Students will discuss the theme of deception in various contexts.
  - Students will articulate personal experiences that relate to the moral of the story.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What are some real-life examples where appearances can be misleading?
  2. How might the story change if the mice had been more cautious?
  3. What lessons can we learn from the old mouse's perspective?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of "The Weasel and the Mice"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pens for students

✓ Original text available on the story page.