LESSON PLAN

The Wolves and the Dogs

GRADES	READING LEVEL
9+	4

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme:** The Wolves and the Dogs; Moral: Resolving conflict requires addressing underlying causes.
- **Plot summary:** In this fable, the Wolves approach the Sheep claiming that the source of their conflict is the quarrelsome Dogs. They suggest that if the Dogs are dismissed, peace will prevail. However, the Sheep point out that it's not as simple as the Wolves believe. This story highlights the complexities of conflict resolution.
- **Key characters and their significance:**
  - **Wolves:** Represent those who seek to eliminate the symptoms of conflict without addressing the root causes.
  - **Sheep:** Symbolize the perspective of those affected by conflict, emphasizing the importance of understanding the deeper issues.
  - **Dogs:** Act as the instigators of the conflict but also represent the necessity of having certain roles in maintaining order.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives:**
  - Students will analyze the characters and their motivations in the story.
  - Students will identify the moral of the story and relate it to real-life situations.
  - Students will engage in discussions about conflict resolution.
  - Students will explore how the themes in the story apply to their own experiences.
- **Discussion Questions:**
  - What do you think the Wolves truly want, and why do they believe dismissing the Dogs will solve their problems?
  - How might the Sheep's perspective on conflict resolution differ from that of the Wolves?
  - Can you think of a situation in your life where addressing the underlying cause of a conflict was more effective than simply removing the source of tension?
- **Required Materials:**
  - Copies of the story "The Wolves and the Dogs"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pens for students

LESSON FLOW

- **Opening Hook (5 min):** Start with a brief discussion about conflicts students have experienced in their lives. Ask them to share how they resolved these conflicts and if they addressed the root cause or just the immediate issue.

- **Story Exploration (15-20 min):** Read the story aloud to the class. After reading, ask students to summarize the plot in their own words and discuss the characters and their roles in the story.
- **Analysis Exercises (15 min):** Divide the class into small groups. Each group will discuss the motivations of the Wolves and the Sheep and create a list of the underlying causes of their conflict. Groups will then share their findings with the class.
- **Application/Reflection (10 min):** Have students reflect individually on a conflict they have faced and write a short paragraph about how they might apply the moral of the story to resolve it.
- **Assessment Strategy (5 min):** Conclude with a quick quiz or exit ticket asking students to define the moral of the story and relate it to a personal experience.

SUPPORTING ELEMENTS

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