LESSON PLAN

The Writer and the Tramps

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	5

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion on what students think makes someone a "genius." Ask them to share examples from their lives or famous figures they admire.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read *The Writer and the Tramps* aloud to the class. After the reading, ask students for their initial reactions and thoughts on the characters and the moral.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide the class into small groups to analyze the character of the writer and the tramp. Each group will list traits, motivations, and the significance of their actions in relation to the story's moral.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Have students write a short personal reflection on a time when they may have judged someone based on appearances. Encourage them to relate their experiences to the themes of humility and true genius.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Collect reflections and group analysis notes. Provide verbal feedback on their understanding of the story's moral.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Writer and the Tramps - True genius is not measured by appearances or self-importance, but rather by humility and the impact one makes on others.
- **Plot Summary**: In this impactful moral story, an ambitious writer, proud of his appearance, encounters a tramp who questions his self-importance. The writer dismisses the tramp, but the tramp's response reveals a deeper truth about the nature of genius and humility.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **Ambitious Writer**: Represents arrogance and superficiality, illustrating how self-importance can blind one to deeper truths.
  - **Tramp (John Gump)**: Embodies humility and wisdom, contrasting the writer's attitude and ultimately teaching a lesson about the true essence of genius.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will identify the moral themes presented in the story.
  - Students will analyze the character traits of the writer and the tramp.
  - Students will discuss how the story relates to personal growth and humility.
  - Students will reflect on their own perceptions of success and genius.
  - Students will create their own short stories with a moral inspired by the themes of the lesson.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What does the story suggest about the relationship between appearance and true talent?
  2. How can humility impact personal growth and one's interactions with others?
  3. In what ways can we apply the lessons from this story to our own lives?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the story The Writer and the Tramps
  - Whiteboard and markers for brainstorming
  - Paper and pens for writing exercises

✓ Original text available on the story page.