LESSON PLAN

The Young Thief and His Mother

GRADES	READING LEVEL
4–8	3

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1. STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title:** The Young Thief and His Mother
- **Moral/Theme:** Parents have a crucial responsibility to guide and correct their children's behavior; neglecting this duty can lead to disastrous consequences.
- **Plot Summary:** A young man is condemned to execution for theft. Before his execution, he requests to speak to his mother, revealing his deep resentment towards her for not correcting his early misdeeds. In a shocking act, he bites her ear, expressing that her neglect led him down this path.
- **Key Characters:**
  - **The Young Thief:** Represents the consequences of unaddressed behavior and poor parental guidance.
  - **The Mother:** Symbolizes the critical role of parents in shaping their children's morals and behaviors. Her failure to correct her son's early thefts leads to tragic outcomes.

2. LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives:**
  - Students will identify and discuss the moral of the story.
  - Students will analyze the characters and their roles in the narrative.
  - Students will reflect on the impact of parental guidance on children's behavior.
  - Students will create their own short moral stories based on lessons learned from the text.
- **Discussion Questions:**
  1. What could the mother have done differently to prevent her son from becoming a thief?
  2. How does the story illustrate the impact of parental decisions on a child's future?
  3. What are some effective ways parents can guide their children in making good choices?
- **Required Materials:**
  - Copies of the story "The Young Thief and His Mother"
  - Chart paper and markers for group activities
  - Writing materials for individual assignments

3. LESSON FLOW

- **Opening Hook (5 min):**
  - Begin with a brief discussion on theft and its consequences in society. Ask students if they have ever faced situations where they had to make a moral choice.
- **Story Exploration (15-20 min):**

    - Read the story aloud as a class. Pause at key moments to ask predictive questions and engage students in visualizing the events.
- **Analysis Exercises (15 min):**
    - Divide students into small groups and assign each group a character to analyze. They will discuss and present on the character's motivations and significance to the story's moral.
- **Application/Reflection (10 min):**
    - Have students write a short paragraph reflecting on how the story's moral relates to their own lives. Encourage them to share any personal experiences related to guidance and choices.
- **Assessment Strategy (5 min):**
    - Conclude with a class discussion where students can share their reflections. Informally assess understanding through their contributions.

4. SUPPORTING ELEMENTS

- **Extension Activities:**
    1. Create a comic strip that depicts a different ending

✓ Original text available on the story page.