LESSON PLAN

Uncalculating Zeal

GRADES	READING LEVEL
9+	5

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme:** Uncalculating Zeal; The moral of the story is that reckless ambition and greed can lead to unintended consequences, and sometimes it's better to leave certain matters alone rather than pursuing them with uncalculated zeal.
- **Plot Summary:** In the Kingdom of Damnasia, a ferocious tiger terrorizes the people. The King offers his daughter's hand in marriage to anyone who can slay the beast. Camaraladdin claims the reward without having faced the tiger, presenting instead the scalp of a wealthy man who was obsessed with accumulating gold. The King teaches Camaraladdin a harsh lesson about the dangers of unchecked ambition.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance:**
  - **King:** Represents authority and wisdom, ultimately illustrating the consequences of reckless ambition.
  - **Camaraladdin:** A symbol of misguided zeal and ambition, whose actions highlight the dangers of pursuing goals without careful consideration.

- **Wealthy Man:** Embodies the pitfalls of greed, demonstrating how unrestrained ambition can have dire outcomes.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives:**
  - Students will identify the main theme of the story and its relevance to real-life situations.
  - Students will analyze the consequences of reckless ambition as portrayed in the story.
  - Students will discuss the importance of thoughtful decision-making and restraint.
  - Students will create a personal connection to the moral by reflecting on their own experiences with ambition and desire.
- **Discussion Questions:**
  - What do you think the King meant by “uncalculating zeal”?
  - How could Camaraladdin's actions have been different to achieve a better outcome?
  - What lessons about ambition can we apply to our lives today?
- **Required Materials:**
  - Copies of the story "Uncalculating Zeal"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pencils for student reflections

LESSON FLOW

- **Opening Hook (5 min):**

Begin with a brief discussion on ambition and greed. Ask students to share times when they or someone they know pursued something without thinking about the consequences.

- **Story Exploration (15-20 min):**

Read the story "Uncalculating Zeal" aloud. Pause at key points to discuss characters' motivations and emotions, encouraging students to predict outcomes.

- **Analysis Exercises (15 min):**

Divide students into small groups. Ask them to analyze Camaraladdin's choices and the King's response. Have each group present their findings to the class.

- **Application/Reflection (10 min):**

Ask students to write a short paragraph reflecting on a personal experience related to ambition. How did it turn out? What did they learn?

- **Assessment Strategy (5 min):**

Collect students' reflections and assess their understanding of the story's

✓ Original text available on the story page.