LESSON PLAN

Wasted Sweets

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion about a time when a good deed was misunderstood. Ask students to share their experiences to create a relatable atmosphere.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read the story "Wasted Sweets" aloud. Pause at key moments to engage students, asking them to predict the outcome and discuss their initial thoughts.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups. Each group will analyze a character's perspective, focusing on the candidate, the nurse, and the man. They will determine how each character's understanding (or lack thereof) shapes the story's message.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Have students write a short paragraph reflecting on how they can apply the moral of the story in their own lives. Encourage them to think about personal experiences where good intentions may have been misunderstood.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Gather feedback from students on the lesson through a quick thumbs-up/thumbs-down on their understanding of the story's moral.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: Wasted Sweets - The story illustrates that appearances can be deceiving, and good intentions may be wasted on those who cannot appreciate them.
- **Plot Summary**: A candidate canvassing for votes encounters a nurse pushing a baby in a carriage. He impulsively kisses the baby, believing he has performed a kind act. However, he soon learns that both the nurse and the baby belong to institutions that render his good intentions meaningless.
- **Key Characters**:
  - **The Candidate**: Represents good intentions and the desire to connect with the public but ultimately fails to assess the situation accurately.
  - **The Nurse**: Symbolizes the façade of care and compassion, though she is unable to understand the candidate's gesture.

- **The Man**: Serves as a truth-teller, revealing the reality behind appearances and highlighting the theme of misjudgment.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will understand the moral lesson of the story.
  - Students will analyze how appearances can be misleading in real-life situations.
  - Students will discuss the implications of good intentions and their potential to be wasted.
  - Students will connect the story to broader life-changing themes in moral stories.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What does the story suggest about the importance of understanding the context of our actions?
  2. How can good intentions sometimes lead to misunderstandings or disappointment?
  3. In what ways does this story relate to other big moral stories you have encountered?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the story "Wasted Sweets"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pencils for students

✓ Original text available on the story page.