

These Lesson Plans are a culmination of school-wide activities and classroom activities, ranging from grades K-12.

Lesson Plan

Kindness Fables

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Type of Activity:

An integrated unit with emphasis on:

- a. Cross-age friendships
- b. Literature-Fables, both traditional and religious

Grade Level: Middle School

Objectives:

1. The student will recognize that kindness can be shown in situations at home, at school, and/or in the community.
2. The student will look for opportunities to show kindness to others.
3. The student will demonstrate kindness to others through cross-age learning experiences.
4. The student will create fables on the topic of kindness.

Materials Needed:

- RAK Balloons
- Posters announcing the week
- RAK Bookmarks
- Kindness Zone signs at entrances to school and classroom to remind everyone to be kind and to perform acts of kindness.
- Strips for Paper Chains (At the beginning of each day, students write any kindness actions on strip of paper adding it to the classroom chain.)

Resources:

Books on fables including Aesop's Fables, fables from other countries, fables by Max Lucado.

BEGINNING THE LESSON:

Brainstorm about the fables students know. Try to match up the morals they teach.

COOPERATIVE ACTIVITY:

Pass out copies of fables to each table. Give each group time to prepare for presenting their fable to the entire group. Special attention should be given to how the moral will be taught.

CLASS ACTIVITY—THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

** Let us live simply so that others can simply live. **

1. Brainstorm ideas to write a class fable to go along with this moral
2. Divide up into writers, artists, copy editors, etc. to publish this class fable

HOMEWORK:

Search for fables from other authors and/or other countries. Share your fable with your group.

GETTING READY TO WRITE:

1. Brainstorm similes that have to do with animals
2. Listen to Carnival of the Animals by Saint-Saens.

WRITING A FABLE:

1. Using the pre-writing worksheet, begin gathering and organizing ideas that will be utilized in writing a fable.
2. Design the format and accompanying art.
3. Check work against the rubric to be sure it is complete.

FABLES

Fables are brief stories told to teach practical lessons about human life. They usually use animals as characters and state the moral, or statement about how one should behave, at the end of the story.

Word origin: Latin, *fabula*, a telling.

Some expressions we use such as “Don’t cry wolf,” or “sour grapes” come from fables.

Other fable writers: James Thurber, Mark Twain

Vocabulary: Fable, raconteur (story teller), idiom, irony, moral

Aesop, a Greek storyteller in the sixth century B.C., is thought to be the originator of Aesop’s fables.

Name _____

FABLES

PRE-WRITING

What lesson would you like to teach? Jot down some ideas.

What animals do you think you might use to get your point across to the reader?

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Possible settings:

Briefly describe the plot of your fable:

First:

Next:

Then:

In the end:

Now think of details you want to include in your fable:

What format would you like to use?

Possible suggestions include: book, pop-up book, video, diorama with accompanying book...

Name _____

RUBRIC FOR FABLE ASSIGNMENT

	POINTS POSSIBLE	POINTS EARNED	COMMENTS
Pre-writing worksheet completed	20		
Minimum # of words included	10		
Margins	5		
Spelling	10		
Punctuation & Capitalization	10		
Sentences are complete	15		
N2SSWTSW/P Unless for emphasis	10		
Writing flows well Subject/verb agreement	20		
The characters fit the story	20		
On time	15		
Neatly typed or neatly hand-written	15		
Art work-neat, appropriate	25		
Art presentation balanced, arranged attractively using good design principles	25		
TOTAL	200		