



## A Lesson on The Boy Who Cried Wolf! by Nicole Mares

**Grade Level:** Grade 3

**Subject Area:** English Language Arts

**Lesson Length:** 1 hour 30 minutes

**Lesson Keywords:** Reading, writing, and discussion

**Lesson Description:** The goal of the lesson is to provide students with an opportunity to utilize the reading and writing thinking skills they have been developing over the entire school year while thinking deeply and differently about a story they may have heard many times throughout their lives. Students will be reading and re-reading the story "The Boy Who Cried Wolf" for understanding while answering and openly discussing questions about the text. The students will be exploring why the citizens did not respond to the boy's cries after he had tricked them the first two times.

### Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.3: Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.3.4: Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 3 topic or subject area.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1: Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

## Task 1: Vocabulary

**Instructions:** Please complete the following vocabulary activity by choosing the correct meaning of each word selected from the passage and use of each word correctly in a sentence.

**Q: 1 WordPhrase:** Shepherd **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** In the sentence "So, no one paid attention to him and the shepherd-boy", what is the meaning of the word "shepherd"?

- A:** a person who tends and rears sheep
- B:** a poor person
- C:** a hunter of sheep
- D:** a person who is half boy half sheep

**Question:** Which one of the sentences below uses the word "shepherd" correctly?

- A:** The shepherd watched over his sheep.
- B:** The shepherd didn't come so the roof never got fixed.
- C:** We finally had a sighting of the shepherd creature.
- D:** The shepherd was begging on the side of the road again, just like he does every day.

**Q: 2 WordPhrase:** Village **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** In the sentence "There was once a boy who lived in a village up in the mountains." What is the meaning of the word "village"?

- A:** A type of house
- B:** The town grocery store
- C:** A settlement usually larger than a hamlet and smaller than a town
- D:** A large field

**Question:** Which of the following sentences uses the word "village" correctly?

- A:** The village was where everyone lived.
- B:** The village didn't start so we couldn't go anywhere.
- C:** I was very hungry so I ate a village.
- D:** The bad guy in a movie is called the village.

**Q: 3 WordPhrase:** Trick **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** What does the word "trick" mean in the sentence "One day, he thought of a trick he could play on the people who lived in the village."

- A:** A cunning or skillful act or scheme intended to deceive or outwit someone.
- B:** A type of sport game.
- C:** A way of showing people you care about them.
- D:** Something you do on a skateboard like a kickflip.

**Question:** Which sentence uses the word "trick" correctly

- A:** The trick the boy played on the people in the village made them disappointed.
- B:** I did a new trick on my skateboard.
- C:** I won the trick.
- D:** The trick tasted very good.

**Q: 4 WordPhrase:** Heard **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** In the sentence "All the villagers heard him, but this time they did not come." what is the meaning of the word "heard"?

- A:** a group of animals
- B:** to be able to see
- C:** to lose hearing
- D:** be aware of; know of the existence of.

**Question:** Which sentence uses the correct meaning of the word "heard".

- A:** She heard her mother but she did not listen.
- B:** The heard was coming straight for us.
- C:** She favorite food was heard.
- D:** She heard the sunset and the colors were beautiful.

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## Lesson Content: Book/Story/Reading Passage

**Instructions:** Please read the following reading passage as many times as needed (aloud and silent) before starting to go through other lesson pages. Understanding the content of this passage is very important since the lesson activities will be all about this content. Feel free to print the passage if needed.

### The Boy Who Cried Wolf!

by

**Content:** There was once a boy who lived in a village up in the mountains. His family owned many sheep. The boy had a job, and that job was to watch the sheep. If a wolf came near, he needed to call for help. His sheep stayed on a hill near the village where he watched them every day.

One day, he thought of a trick he could play on the people who lived in the village. He was bored, so he thought this would be a way to have fun. He ran toward the village crying out loudly for help.

He shouted, Wolf! Wolf! Come and help! The wolves are at my lambs! The wolves are trying to eat them!

There were many villagers in the town. They heard him crying and thought that they had to help. So, the kind villagers left their work and ran to the field to help him. They would try to help him chase away the wolves and protect his lambs. However, when the villagers got there, the boy laughed at them. There was no wolf there. He just wanted to watch them come running! He thought it was funny.

Then another day the boy tried the same trick. Once again, the villagers came running to help him out, and once again the boy laughed at them.

Then, one day, a wolf really did come and it started chasing the lambs. In great fright, the boy ran for help. Wolf! Wolf! he screamed. There is a wolf! Help! Please! Help! Please!

All the villagers heard him, but this time they did not come. They thought he was pulling another mean trick. They had learned their lesson and did not need to be laughed at again. So, no one paid attention to him and the shepherd-boy lost all his sheep they all ran away.

When people in the village found out what had happened, they were sorry, but they told the boy it was his fault. That is the kind of thing that happens to people who lie. Even when they tell the truth, no one believes them. People are just so used to their lies.

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## Task 2: Forum Discussion

**Instructions:** This discussion forum will have questions for students to respond. Read the posted questions, and respond to each. Students are responsible for posting one initial and two peer responses for each topic.

### 1 - Why do you think that the boy was playing ...

Why do you think the boy was playing tricks on the innocent people in his village?

### 2 - Why do you think...

Why do you think that the villagers stopped going to help the boy even though the wolves were actually coming to eat his sheep?

### 3 - If you were a villager...

If you were one of the villagers and you heard the boy crying help for the third time, would you go and help him even though you know that he might be lying again?? Explain your answer in at least 3 sentences.

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Task 3: Writing Activity

**Instructions:** What do you think that the morale of the story is?? Is it to always be helpful to villagers in need no matter what?? Is it to make sure that whenever you're watching your sheep that you also have another shepherd with you?? Explain in at least three paragraphs.

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