



A Lesson on The Boy Who Cried Wolf! by River Gottschalk

Grade Level: Grade 3

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 1 hour

Lesson Keywords: boy who cried wolf, 3rd grade, reading

Lesson Description: The Boy Who Cried Wolf Common Core Lesson

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.2: Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.

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

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4: Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning word and phrases based on grade 3 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

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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 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: village **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: The author in our story says, "There was once a boy who lived in a village up in the mountains." Which of the following words is a synonym to village?

- A: forest
- B: castle
- C: town
- D: country

Question: Who one of the sentences below uses the word "village" correctly.

- A: I went to the store to buy a village.
- B: I have to wear a village for school tomorrow.
- C: There are a lot of villages in the ocean.
- D: I am going to the village to buy bread.

Q: 2 WordPhrase: fright **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: The author in our story says, "Then, one day, a wolf really did come and it started chasing the lambs. In great fright, the boy ran for help." What does the word "fright" mean in this sentence?

- A: excitement
- B: happiness
- C: sadness
- D: fear

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

- A: I went to go eat ice cream with fright.
- B: I had a lot of fright watching the scary movie.
- C: I had a lot of fright having fun at the party.
- D: I am so happy because I am filled with fright.

Q: 3 WordPhrase: trick **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The author in our story says, "One day, he thought of a trick he could play on the people who lived in the village". What does the word "trick" mean in this sentence?

- A: a special skill
- B: a ball game
- C: a card game
- D: a lie to get something

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

- A: I thought of how I could trick my mom into buying me a toy.
- B: I go to trick practice for math.
- C: When reading, make sure to sit in your trick.
- D: My trick is at home.

Q: 4 WordPhrase: learn your lesson **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The author in our story says "They had learned their lesson and did not need to be laughed at again." What does the word "lesson" mean in this sentence?

- A: reading
- B: dance
- C: trick
- D: mistake

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

- A: I used my lesson to fly a kite.
- B: I worked with a lesson today.
- C: My mom ran a red light and learned her lesson paying the ticket.
- D: I am going to lesson the door when I paint it.

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 - The villagers did not believe the boy when he cried

Why do you think the villagers did not believe the boy?

2 - Telling the truth.

Why is it important not to lie?

3 - Consequences of lying.

What can happen if you lie a lot to people?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: Write 3-5 sentences about a time that someone did not tell you the truth, but lied instead. How did it make you feel? Did you trust the person after you found out that they had lied to you??

Then, write 3-5 sentences about how you would have felt if the boy had lied to you about the wolves. Would you have listened to him after he had played his first trick?

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