



A Lesson on The Lion and the Spider by Renee Robbins

Grade Level: Grade 4

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 45 minutes

Lesson Keywords: The Lion and the Spider

Lesson Description: The purpose of this activity is to provide students with a chance to develop their comprehension skills when it comes to reading and responding to a text. It was also help them develop their vocabulary, reading, and critical thinking skills. The students will be read \"The Lion and the Spider\" and then be asked to re-read the text on their own, and complete the following activities on what they read.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.1: Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.3: Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including those that allude to significant characters found in mythology (e.g., Herculean).

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.4.4: Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.4.4a: Read grade-level text with purpose and understanding.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.1b: Provide reasons that are supported by facts and details.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.4: Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.9a: Apply grade 4 Reading standards to literature (e.g., \"Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text [e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions].\").

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.4a: Use context (e.g., definitions, examples, or restatements in text) as a clue to the meaning of

a word or phrase.

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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 Lion and the Spider

by

Content: It was a sunny day in the grassland. The lion had slept well. It was fierce when it hunted. But today it was not hungry yet. It would hunt for food later in the day. Right now, all it wanted to do was relax. It stretched out and watched the grass.

Then it noticed a spider. The spider was climbing on a plant. Then the spider jumped to the next plant and left a string between them. It was making a web. The lion watched for a while. How clever you are, it said to the spider. How did you learn to do that?

The spider said, My mother showed me how to do this. I learned from her. And I have taught my children how to make webs.

The lion watched a while longer. Then it asked the spider, But why do you do that when you could just grab your food, the way I do?

I am just a small animal. I cannot run fast. So I do not eat insects that run. I cannot fly. I eat flies. So with my web I can catch them.

The lion said, Could you make me a web that could catch an animal for me to eat? Then I would not have to run after them either?

The spider thought about that. At first she thought the lion was joking. But he was not.

I cant do that, she said. My web can catch a fly. But it could not catch a big animal. And you could not live by eating flies.

Just then a fly flew into the spiders web. She went to get it. She wrapped it up for her children. Then she went back to spinning more of the web.

The lion was very selfish. It was jealous of the spider. It did not have to work hard for its food. And it would not help him get his food. So it slapped at the spider web and broke it. But the spider jumped onto the lions back. And it bit the lion.

Now you will remember me, said the spider as she hopped off and into the grass. Think before you are mean to another animal. We are all special. And some of us may be small but very smart.

The lion tried to scratch its back but could not reach the spider bite. It itched for days. The lion remembered the smart spider for a long time.

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: selfish **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: The lion was very selfish. What does the word "selfish" mean when used to describe the lion?

A: only interested in himself

B: cares about the spider

C: very tired

D: loving

Question: Select the sentence that uses the word "selfish" correctly.

A: Now that she awoke from her nap, the girl was no longer selfish.

B: My brother gave me half of his snack because he is very selfish.

C: The selfish ant gave her mother a big hug.

D: My brother was very selfish because he did not share his snack with me.

Q: 2 WordPhrase: grassland **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: It was a sunny day in the grassland. What does the word "grassland" mean in this sentence?

A: forest with lots of trees

B: concrete area

C: large open grassy area

D: a carpet

Question: Which sentence uses the word "grassland" properly?

A: the grassland behind the store was often dark and scary

B: the grassland at school was my favorite place to hangout

C: my bedrooms grassland was often dirty

D: the animals often grazed in the sunny grassland

Q: 3 WordPhrase: fierce **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: It was fierce when it hunted. What does the word "fierce" mean when used to describe a lion?

A: scared

B: tough

C: excited

D: sad

Question: Which sentence uses the word "fierce" correctly?

A: The ant was fierce when it carried food to its home.

B: The lion let out of a fierce growl.

C: Her smile was very fierce after the funny story.

D: I am often called fierce because I am always happy.

Q: 4 WordPhrase: clever **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: ?How clever you are,? it said to the spider. What does the word "clever" mean?

A: lazy

B: silly

C: smart

D: happy

Question: Which sentence uses the word "clever" correctly?

A: The boy is very clever because he always gets the answers right.

B: The clever giraffe was always asleep.

C: He was called clever because he was always late.

D: The tortoise was clever because she was always smiling.

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 will the lion remember the spider?

At the end of the story, the spider tells the lion you'll remember me. Why does the spider say this, and what does it mean??

2 - What lesson did the spider teach to the lion?

At the end of the story, the lion learns something from the smart spider. What does he learn? What is the moral of the story?

3 - What makes the lion and the spider so different?

At the beginning of the story, the lion and the spider are described to be very different. What makes them different? Are they still viewed as different by the end of the book??

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: In two paragraphs, explain why the lion was jealous of the spider, and what the spider did to show the lion that all animals were different. Talk about about why the lesson that the spider taught to the lion is important.?

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