

Overview:

This lesson plan is designed for preschoolers aged 3-6 and focuses on the book "Hillary the Runaway Cow". The lesson aims to introduce children to the story, engage them in discussions about the plot and characters, and provide hands-on activities related to the themes of the book.

Materials:

- Picture book "Hillary the Runaway Cow" by Ree Drummond
- Props or stuffed animals representing cows
- Art supplies (paper, crayons, markers)
- Farm animal toys or puzzles
- Whiteboard or chart paper
- Sing-along songs about farm animals (optional)

Introduction:

Begin the lesson by introducing the book "Hillary the Runaway Cow". Show the cover of the book and ask the children if they have any ideas or predictions about what the story might be about. Give a brief overview of the story, mentioning that it is about a cow named Hillary who goes on an adventure. Explain that you will read the story together and that afterward, they will have a chance to discuss and do activities related to the book.

Activities:

1. Story Reading (15 minutes):

- Read the book "Hillary the Runaway Cow" aloud to the children, using expressive voices and pointing out the illustrations as you go along. Encourage the children to actively listen and engage with the story.

2. Discussion Time (15 minutes):

- After reading the story, gather the children in a circle and engage them in a discussion about the book. Ask questions such as:
 - "What happened in the story?"
 - "What did Hillary do when she ran away?"
 - "How do you think Hillary felt during her adventure?"
 - "What did Hillary learn from her experience?"
- Encourage the children to share their thoughts, feelings, and opinions about the story. Use open-ended questions to promote critical thinking and engage their imaginations.

3. Art Activity (20 minutes):

- Provide art supplies and ask the children to draw and color their favorite scene from the book or their own version of Hillary the cow. Encourage them to be creative and use their imagination.
- After they finish drawing, have them share their artwork and explain why they chose that scene or how their version of Hillary is different.

4. Farm Animals Exploration (20 minutes):

- Set up a farm animal exploration station with farm animal toys or puzzles.
 - Encourage the children to explore the different farm animals, their names, and sounds they make. They can sort animals by size or type and have pretend play with the toys.

Closure:

To conclude the lesson, bring the children back together and ask each of them to share one thing they learned from the story or enjoyed about the activities. Recap the key points from the book and emphasize any lessons or messages conveyed. Thank the children for their participation and engagement.

Extension Activities:

1. Farm Animal Song: Teach the children a sing-along song about farm animals. Sing together and encourage them to dance or imitate the actions of the animals mentioned in the song.
2. Farm Animal Puppets: Provide materials for the children to create their own farm animal puppets using paper bags or craft sticks. They can use their puppets to retell parts of the story or create their own stories.
3. Farm Animal Scavenger Hunt: Hide pictures or cutouts of farm animals around the classroom or a designated area. Ask the children to find and match the hidden animals to the ones on a printable scavenger hunt sheet.

Assessment Objectives:

1. Social-Emotional:

- Listens attentively during story reading and discussion time
- Expresses their thoughts and feelings about the story and characters in a respectful manner

2. Language:

- Listens and comprehends the story during story reading
 - Uses language to describe the characters, events, and lessons from the story during discussions

3. Cognitive:

- Demonstrates curiosity and imagination during the discussion and art activity
 - Recalls key details from the story when discussing and creating their artwork

4. The Arts:

- Explores creativity and self-expression through the art activity
 - Shares and explains their artwork, demonstrating confidence and communication skills

Assessment Methods:

Observations will be made during the discussion time, art activity, and overall

participation in the lesson. The teacher will listen to the children's verbal contributions, assess their understanding of the story, and observe their creativity and engagement in the art activity. Assessment results will be used to inform teaching practices, such as providing additional support or extension activities based on individual needs and interests.