

FAIRY TALES WITH A MORAL

"My Duty, My Responsibility – Doing What Is Right Even When No One Sees"

LESSON PLAN

1. **Theme:** Fairy tales with a moral lesson / Responsibility & Duty
2. **Grade:** 3rd
3. **Lesson type:** Lesson for acquiring new knowledge
4. **Duration:** 40 min.
5. **Basic terms:** responsibility, duty, promise, effort, care
6. **Pedagogical methods:** storytelling, dialog, discussion, demonstration, group games, reflection
7. **Means:** board/interactive board, projector, PPT, markers, cards, worksheets
8. **Goals:**

Educational goals:

Students will learn:

- ✓ What is responsibility and why it matters
- ✓ Difference between duty and choice
- ✓ Examples of personal and shared responsibilities
- ✓ Why keeping promises is important
- ✓ How responsibility fits into Islamic moral values (truthfulness, care, trust)

Formational goals:

Students will learn to:

- ✓ Develop self-discipline
- ✓ Show reliability and care for others

- ✓ Build teamwork and helpful attitudes
- ✓ Strengthen willpower and effort
- ✓ Reflect on their behavior
- ✓ Support others in shared tasks

9. Cross-curricular connections: Philosophy, Ethics, Social and Emotional Learning

10. Intra-subject connections: Me and the others; Me and my family; I support others; Rules in our class

11. Expected results:

By the end of the lesson students will be able to:

- ✓ Explain what responsibility means
- ✓ Identify their duties at home, at school, and in the community
- ✓ Recognize how responsible actions affect other people
- ✓ Demonstrate understanding through games and worksheets
- ✓ Reflect on how to be trustworthy and reliable

12. Preparation for the teacher:

- PPT slides for the lesson
- Printed worksheets & colored cards
- Story script
- Flipchart for brainstorming

13. Structure of the lesson

A. Introduction – Parable “The Two Lanterns” (5 min)

Story:

Two lanterns hung outside a house. The first lantern always kept its light strong. The second lantern often dimmed—sometimes from laziness, sometimes because it hoped no one would notice. One stormy night the road was dark. The strong lantern helped travelers find their way safely. But the dim lantern caused a person to stumble.

Discussion questions:

- Which lantern was responsible?
- Why does our “light” matter to others?
- When we have a duty, who depends on us?

Transition: “Today we will learn what responsibility means—how our actions guide others, just like lanterns lighting a path.”

CORE CONCEPTS – THEORY

Teacher’s Theoretical Notes: Responsibility & Duty (Global Context)

1. Understanding Responsibility

Responsibility means taking ownership of one’s actions, fulfilling tasks reliably, and understanding how choices affect others. Around the world, primary-aged children (6–10 years old) develop responsibility through routine habits, classroom roles, and participation in group activities. At this stage, children begin to understand cause and effect, fairness, and the expectations of their community.

2. Duty: A Universal Moral Concept

Duty is a special kind of responsibility tied to moral or social expectations. In multicultural classrooms around the world, duties may include caring for shared materials, following classroom norms, helping peers, protecting the environment, and contributing to group harmony. Duties help children understand that certain tasks are important not only for themselves but for others who rely on their actions.

3. Cultural and Ethical Perspectives

Across cultures, responsibility is linked to values such as honesty, kindness, cooperation, and respect. Many traditions teach children that fulfilling duties builds trust and strengthens family and community bonds. For Muslim students, concepts such as amanah (trust), sidq (truthfulness), and ihsan (excellence) support responsible behavior. These values align with universal expectations for self-discipline, reliability, and care for others.

4. Responsibility in Global Classrooms

Schools worldwide encourage responsibility through activities such as group projects, classroom jobs, reflection exercises, and peer support. Teachers guide students in making responsible choices and understanding the impact of their behavior on the learning environment. These experiences help children practice empathy, teamwork, and independence.

5. Why Teaching Responsibility Matters

Responsibility helps children develop essential life skills: self-control, time management, cooperation, conflict resolution, and social awareness. It prepares them for future academic success and for becoming positive contributors to their families and communities. In multicultural and global settings, responsibility also enhances mutual respect and understanding between students of different backgrounds.

6. Pedagogical Strategies

- Use storytelling from diverse cultures to illustrate responsibility
- Provide clear structure, routines, and expectations
- Give students chances to practice responsibility through jobs and group tasks
- Encourage reflection on how their actions help or affect others
- Model responsible behavior consistently as the teacher
- Reinforce positive behavior with encouragement and predictable feedback

In brief: What Is Responsibility?

- Doing what you are supposed to do.
- Taking care of your tasks even if no one watches.
- Being reliable—people can trust you.

Examples:

- Feeding a pet daily
- Returning a borrowed item
- Finishing homework
- Helping at home

What Is Duty?

- A responsibility that is important and necessary.
- Duties can be at home, at school, to friends, or to ourselves.
- In Islam, amanah (trust) means fulfilling duties honestly.

Examples:

- Keeping a promise
- Respecting parents and teachers
- Taking care of your things
- Following class rules

Why Is Responsibility Important?

- Others rely on us
- It keeps our community safe and peaceful
- Helps us grow strong and confident
- Builds trust with family, friends, and teachers
- Brings reward from Allah for honesty and effort

What Happens When We Ignore Responsibility?

- Others may get hurt or upset

- Trust is lost
- Problems grow bigger
- We feel guilty or disappointed

14. **Structure, content and timeline**

1. Introduction (15 min.)

Teacher activity:

- Reads “The Two Lanterns”
- Leads discussion
- Introduces key terms: responsibility, duty, promise, trust (amanah)

Student activity:

- Listening
- Answering questions
- Giving examples

Methods: storytelling, dialog, discussion

Tools: board, PPT, markers

2. Game – “Who Counts on Me?” (6 min.)

Instructions: Teacher reads situations.

Students stand up if the character has a duty/responsibility.

Students sit if it’s only a wish, not a duty.

Examples:

A child promises to help carry groceries.

A child wants to play a new game.

A student must bring the class notebook back.

Someone promised to water the class plant.

A child wants to buy ice cream.

Pause after each:

“Who is relying on you in this case?”

3. Card Game – Duty or Not? Responsible or Irresponsible? (6 min.)

Materials:

- Blue card = responsible / duty
- Red card = irresponsible / not duty

Scenarios:

- You clean your desk without being told.
- You forget to feed the pet.
- You help a younger sibling with homework.
- You leave your toys on the stairs and someone trips.
- You return a lost wallet to the teacher.

Discussion: “How would others feel in this situation?”

4. Worksheet – “My Responsibility Web” (8 min.)

Students complete:

- ✓ Circle pictures of responsible acts
- ✓ Draw or write one responsibility at home, one at school
- ✓ Match pictures to “duty” or “not duty”

Teacher supports children individually.

15. Variations:

Teacher:

- Can replace card game with role-play
- Use real-life examples from classroom rules
- Use storytelling for younger students

16. Additional stories (Islam-based moral tales about duty & responsibility)

A. The Shepherd Boy and Trust (Hadith-based moral)

A shepherd cared for his sheep. Someone tried to buy one secretly.

“No,” said the boy, “my master is not here, but Allah is watching.”

Lesson: Duty is fulfilled with honesty, even when unseen.

B. The Ant and Preparation (Qur'anic story, Surah An-Naml)

An ant warned her colony of danger. She fulfilled her responsibility to protect others.

Lesson: Thinking of others and preparing is a duty.

C. The Cleaner of the Prophet’s Mosque (Islamic tradition)

A woman who cleaned the mosque did her duty quietly. The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) honored her and prayed for her.

Lesson: Even small responsibilities are valuable and respected.

D. The Little Garden (short Islamic-style tale)

A girl watered her garden daily. Even when it rained, she checked the plants. Her responsibility made the garden grow strong.

Lesson: Care + consistency = success.

