



LITERATURE LESSON PLANS

Good children's literature
appeals not only to the child
in the adult,
but to the adult in the child.

~ ANONYMOUS ~

Charlotte's Web 2

Time: 40 minutes **Reading:** Chapters 1 and 2 **Review:** God's gift of language and its purposes

Goals: Teach God's love for the weak and encourage care for the outcasts of the community.

Principle: God's people are to defend and care for the weak and needy. **Scripture:** Vindicate the weak and fatherless; do justice to the afflicted and destitute. Rescue the weak and needy . . . (Psalm 82:3–5).

TEACHER

Vocabulary:

- afflicted** (v.) Mentally or physically unfit.
- blissful** (adj.) Completely happy and contented.
- provide** (v.) To furnish; to supply.
- runt** (n.) An undersized animal, especially the smallest of a litter.
- untimely** (adj.) Happening before the usual time.
- vindicate** (v.) To defend; to clear of accusation or blame.
- weakling** (n.) A physically weak creature.



Preparation to Teach:

1. Be certain that you have read the entire classic before teaching. For this lesson, reread chapter 1 "Before Breakfast" and chapter 2 "Wilbur."
2. Study the teacher vocabulary words.
3. Gather all the resources needed for the lesson: the classic, Student Vocabulary Card, copies of Wilbur's Character Graphic Organizer, and Coloring Page 1, "Fern feeds Wilbur."



Teaching Plan:

1. Distribute student binders.
2. Review God's gift of language and its purposes. Define literature and review the five literary elements.
3. Introduce the principle to the children. Teach the children about the loving father-heart of God, which defends and cares for the weak and needy. Teach them that although we are also weak and lowly, God gently cares for us, provides for us and nurtures us. He honors us and calls us His children.

Discuss ways you can show God's great love by caring for the weaker members of your community.

STUDENT

Key Word:

injustice (n.) Unfairness; a wrong; any violation of another's rights.

Reason Questions:

1. What was the unfortunate situation of Mr. Arable's newborn piglet?
2. Why does Fern try to save the piglet?
3. What is the injustice against which she argues?
4. How does Fern feel about her new pet pig? What does she name him?
5. Describe the ways Fern cares for Wilbur.



Notebook Record:

1. Color your Coloring Page with your colored pencils.
2. Record the following phrases on your Wilbur's Character Graphic Organizer:

External:

"a spring pig"

"a runt"

"He was white."

"He looked cute when his eyes were closed because his lashes were so long."



Oral Work:

God loves the weak and cares for the afflicted.

4. Pin the Student Vocabulary Card on the Treasure Chest bulletin board and define the word for the children. Connect the vocabulary word to the principle.
5. Distribute Coloring Page 1, “Fern feeds Wilbur,” to the children.
6. Read chapter 1 “Before Breakfast” and chapter 2 “Wilbur” aloud to the children.
7. Ask the Reason Questions and have children respond orally.
8. Distribute Wilbur Character Graphic Organizers. Write Wilbur’s characterization notes on the chalkboard and have children copy onto their Wilbur Character Graphic Organizer.
9. Before completing the lesson, have children repeat the Student Oral Work.
10. You may end with a short prayer and blessing for the children.

Wilbur's Character

Using the words of the author, record Wilbur's internal and external characteristics.

Internal Character



External Character

A vertical rectangular box containing 28 horizontal lines for writing internal characteristics.

A vertical rectangular box containing 28 horizontal lines for writing external characteristics.



Fern lovingly fed Wilbur milk with a baby bottle.

Charlotte's Web Wind Catcher

Our Project:

Use string to weave a web like Charlotte's that contains an advertisement for Wilbur.

Supplies:

- sturdy paper plate (or a circle cut out of cardboard) for each child
- black spray paint
- white chalk
- white string or yarn



Preparation:

1. Before class, spray the front of each plate with black paint.
2. Cut notches 1-inch apart around the circumference of each plate.
3. Cut string into 3-yard lengths for each child.

Instructions:

1. Distribute plates, chalk, and lengths of string to the children.
2. Demonstrate how to write "Some Pig" on the black plate with a piece of chalk. Have each child write "Some Pig" or "Radiant" or "Humble" on his black plate.
3. Show children how to weave a web on their plates:
 - Tie a knot at one end of the length of string.
 - Wedge the knot into one of the notches on the plate.
 - Stretch the string across the plate and through another notch.
 - Continue to weave the string across the front of the plate, through a notch and across the back of the plate, through another notch until you have used your length of string.
 - Tie off the end of the string and wedge into a notch to finish your web.
 - Place a loop at one end and a knot at the other end of another piece of string. Wedge into one of the notches on the plate.
 - Hang from the ceiling or from a hook on the wall.