Georgia Performance Standards Framework for ELA Unit 5 – 4th Grade

Grade: 4
Topic: Responding and Making Connections Through Fables
Instructional unit: Unit 5, Responding To Literature
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The task: The teacher will read one fable to the students. (Example: The Tortoise and The Hare.) Now, the class will review the definition of a moral to a story. The teacher will ask the students if they can determine the moral of the fable that was just read during the mini-lesson. Next, the students will get in groups of two and write a list of fables with which they are familiar and write the moral to each one. A time allotment of ten minutes is needed for this assignment. Class members should share fables and morals. Then the teacher can review how students might express the message (moral) differently when putting it in their own words, but the lesson learned is the same. Finally, students will work individually writing personal connections they may have with certain fables and morals. (Take approximately 10 minutes for this activity.) Six volunteers should share their personal connections orally with the class. Also, students orally compare personal connections and lessons learned with other students.

Differentiation:
- Let students make up their own fables including a moral to the story. (Interpretive)
- Students may write a true story that happened to them, including a true lesson they learned. (Reflective)
- Students may make a list of reasons why the character(s) from the fable(s) should not have done what he/she did. (Evaluate)
- Students may reflect on many fables and morals and relate their own personal connections to each. (Reflective)

Focus Standard:
ELA4W2 The student demonstrates competence in a variety of genres. The student produces a response to literature that:
b. Advances a judgment that is interpretive, evaluative or reflective.

Circumstances of the assignment/Notes to the Teachers:
This lesson needs to be taught after personal connections have been introduced. The teacher may need to grasp the students’ comfort level of fables and morals before implementing this lesson. This initiation will determine the number of books and resources that need to be available for lesson.