Lesson Plan: Conflict Resolution in Bible and Fairy Tales

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Joseph and Cinderella | Grade | Time |
| 9Adar Conflict Resolution and Purim | 3-5 | 40-45 min |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Driving question** | How can we solve a conflict when the characters involved all have different perspectives on the conflict? |
| **Vocabulary** | אמא  אבא  אח\אחים  אחות\אחיות |
| **Materials** | Joseph story and text study  Story of Gad  Cinderella story text study  *Cinderella is So Annoying!*  Conflict chart  Markers, crayons, colored pencils, paper  Costumes: Joseph, Jacob, a couple brothers, Cinderella, step-sisters, step-mother |
| **objectives**  **(Students will be able to…)** | Identify the feelings and needs behind the conflicts  Understand that different characters have different perspectives  Generate creative solutions for resolving conflicts cooperatively |
| **anticipatory set**  **(7 mins.)** | Read Cinderella or Joseph story  Read excerpt/s from *Cinderella is So Annoying!* (see resources)  or Gad’s story text study |
| **procedure**  **(5 Mins.)**  **Art Activity**  **(15-20 mins.)** | Read over either story.  Have students identify (can be done in chart):   1. What is the conflict in the story? 2. How do the main characters feel about the conflict? 3. What does each of those characters want and need?   Have each student pick a character and draw the conflict from that character’s perspective. Then assign them another character and have the student draw out the new perspective. No words. Have students discuss/present how their two pictures are different.  OR  Assign students characters. Each student draws the perspective of their character. When all have finished, post the pictures and have students compare them |
| **Drama Activity**  **(15-20 mins.)** | Discussion: Ask students to come up with suggestions of how each character could have acted differently in order to avoid creating a conflict. Students pick their three favorite suggestions through debate and then reenact the conflict with the changes. |
| **closure**  **(10 mins.)** | Joseph lesson: Short writing exercise—retell the story from Judah’s perspective  Cinderella lesson: Short writing exercise—retell the story from the step-sisters’ perspective |

**Joseph and his Brothers**

Jacob was Abraham’s grandson. Jacob had thirteen children: twelve boys and one girl! Jacob’s second youngest son, Joseph, was his favorite of all his children. Jacob gave Joseph a special coat of many colors to show him how much he loved him.

One night Joseph had a peculiar dream. He dreamed that he and his brothers were binding sheaves of hay. Suddenly his bundle stood up and those of his brothers bowed down to him. Joseph told his brothers this dream and they got very angry with him. Another night, Joseph dreamed that eleven stars, the sun and the moon bowed down to him. When he told his brother and his father this dream, they became even angrier with him. They asked Joseph if he thought that one day he would rule over them all.

One day, Jacob asked Joseph to check on his brothers who were in the field working. As Joseph approached his brothers, they plotted to throw him in a pit and sell him as a slave to a caravan of passing travelers. Before they pushed him into the pit, they tore his coat from him. After they sold him to the travelers, they dipped the coat in the blood of a lamb and brought it back to their father, Jacob. When Jacob saw the robe, he thought that a wild animal must have attacked Joseph while he was in the field and he mourned greatly for the loss of his favorite son.

**Gad’s Stories**

1. Ginzberg’s *Legends of the Jews*

“Joseph’s talebearing [tattling] against his brethren made them hate him. Among all of them Gad was particularly wrathful, and for good reason. Gad was a very brave man, and when a beast of prey attacked the herd, over which he kept guard at night, he would seize it by one of its legs, and whirl it around until it was stunned, and then he would fling it away to a distance of two stadia, and kill it thus. Once Jacob sent Joseph to tend the flock, but he remained away only thirty days, for he was a delicate lad and fell sick with the heat, and he hastened back to his father. On his return he told Jacob that the sons of the handmaids were in the habit of slaughtering the choice cattle of the herd and eating it without obtaining permission from Judah and Reuben. But his report was not accurate. What he had seen was Gad slaughtering one lamb, which he had snatched from the very jaws of a bear, and he killed it because it could not be kept alive after its fright. Joseph’s account sounded as though the sons of the handmaids were habitually inconsiderate and careless in wasting their father’s substance” (Legends, 329).

1. Testament of Gad (2 Century BCE):

“…I [Gad] was the ninth son born to Jacob, and I was valiant in keeping the flocks. Accordingly I guarded at night the flock; and whenever the lion came, or the wolf, or any wild beast against the fold, I pursued it, and overtaking (it) I seized its foot with my hand and hurled it about a stone’s throw, and so killed it. Now Joseph my brother was feeding the flock with us for upwards of thirty days, and being young, he fell sick by reason of the heat. And he returned to Hebron to our father, who made him lie down near him, because he loved him greatly. And Joseph told our father that the sons of Zilpah and Bilhah were slaying the best of the flock and eating them against the judgment of Reuben and Judah. For he saw that I had delivered a lamb out of the mouth of a bear, and put the bear to death; but had slain the lamb, being grieved concerning it that it could not live, and that we had eaten it. And regarding this matter I was wroth with Joseph until the day that he was sold, and the spirit of hatred was in me, and I wished not either to hear of Joseph with the ears, or see him with the eyes because he rebuked us to our faces saying that we were eating of the flock without Judah. For whatsoever things he told our father, he believed him…” (Testament of Gad).

**Biblical Conflict**

Instructions: Read the story of Joseph and his brothers. Find the conflict in the story. Why aren’t the characters getting along? What does each character want? What does each character need? How could each character act differently so that they can get along better?



**What is the Conflict?**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Characters** **Wants** **Needs**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

**Cinderella**

There was once a family of three: a mother, a father, and a daughter. Sadly the mother died so that the daughter and father lived alone. Soon, though, the father remarried. His new wife had two daughters who were both beautiful. They were also very cruel. After Cinderella’s father died, her step-mother and step-sisters would make her do difficult house work all the time. Since she worked by the fireplace and was always covered in ash, they called her Cinderella.

One day the king of the land decided that his son, the prince, needed to find a wife. He threw a grand ball and invited all the beautiful women from the kingdom. Cinderella’s two step-sisters were excited to attend the ball. They and their mother hoped that one of them would be chosen by the prince as his bride. Cinderella begged her step mother to also attend the prince’s ball, but her step mother laughed and would not let her go. Cinderella was too dirty, covered in ash, and without a dress. She would embarrass her step-sisters and step-mother.

Cinderella was very sad and wished for a beautiful dress that she could wear to the ball. A fairy Godmother appeared and gathered the singing birds in a nearby tree. Together they spun Cinderella beautiful gown and glass slippers. Cinderella wore these to the prince’s feast and her family did not recognize her. The prince noticed how beautiful she was and danced with her all night. Before it got too late, however, Cinderella told the prince that she had to return home and she ran off before the prince could follow her home. As she ran off, one of her glass slippers fell off, and the prince collected it. When everyone returned home after the dancing had ended for the night, they found Cinderella in her normal rags sitting by the fire as usual.

The next morning the prince scoured the kingdom trying the shoe on the feet of all the women. Finally he arrived at Cinderella’s house but Cinderella was in a back room and the prince did not know she was there. Each step-sister tried on the golden slipper, eager to prove that they were the beautiful woman who had danced with the prince the previous night. The shoe did not fit either of their feet.

The prince then asked the father if there were any other young women in the house. The father said that there was just Cinderella. The prince called for her and she entered the room. She sat down and put the golden slipper on her foot. It fit perfectly. Though she was covered in her usual rags and ashes, the prince knew that Cinderella was the young woman he had danced with and that she would be his bride.

**Fairy Tale Conflict**

Instructions: Read the stories of Cinderella. Find the conflict in the story. Why aren’t the characters getting along? What does each character want? What does each character need? How could each character act differently so that they can get along better?

**What is the Conflict?**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Characters** **Wants** **Needs**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

**Resources**

Ginzberg, Louis. *Legends of the Jews*. “Joseph Hated by His Bretheren”. (Jewish Publication Society, 2003). Philadelphia.

Shaskhan, Trisha Speed. *Seriously Cinderella Is So Annoying! The Story of Cinderella as Told by the Wicked Stepmother*. (Capstone, 2013). <http://books.google.co.il/books/about/Seriously_Cinderella_Is_So_Annoying.html?id=e5aA4-y2GS8C&redir_esc=y>

-This short (24 pages) children’s book tells the Cinderella story through the eyes of the stepmother and as such would complement the Cinderella text study.

“Testament of Gad”. Pseudepigrapha. 2nd Century BCE.

http://kidshealth.org/classroom/3to5/personal/growing/conflict\_resolution.pdf