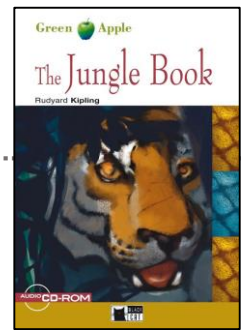


# LESSON PLAN

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## RUDYARD KIPLING • THE JUNGLE BOOK

- Aim**
- to develop reading skills
  - to expand vocabulary
  - to predict the continuation of a story
  - to identify a literary genre
  - to compare similarities and differences with the film version
  - to encourage the pleasure of reading

**Level** A1

**Time** 45 minutes

**Materials:** 1 front cover illustration of the graded reader *The Jungle Book*  
2 a worksheet

### Introduction

This lesson plan introduces *The Jungle Book*, by Rudyard Kipling, a great classic about a young boy who is raised by a family of loving wolves in the jungle of India. The short extracts chosen will draw students into the plot, encourage them to ask questions, develop their vocabulary and predict what will happen next. They will also be able to compare the story with the new 2018 film version, *Mowgli: Legend of the Jungle*, directed by Andy Serkis, if they have seen the movie. If not, you can tell them a little about it and invite them to watch the short trailer in the web. All of this with the aim of increasing their pleasure in reading.

### Background notes on the vocabulary

As the level of this reader is A1, the students may not know the meaning of these words:

- wolf cub* – a young or baby wolf -
- wolf pack* – a group of wolves that live and hunt together

### Background notes on the story

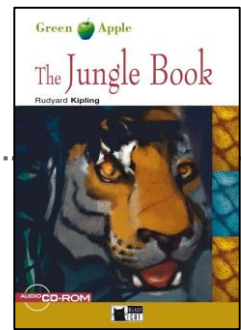
One evening, while Mother Wolf, Father Wolf and their four cubs are in their cave, they hear a noise outside. Father Wolf looks outside the cave and sees a baby standing under a tree. The baby is small and has no clothes. He looks at Father Wolf and laughs. The wolves immediately recognize him and say, 'It's a man cub!'. They welcome him into their cave and the young man cub starts to drink Mother Wolf's milk.

Suddenly Shere Khan, a terribly dangerous tiger, appears and wants the man cub; but the wolves don't want to give him to Shere Khan. The terrible tiger goes away angrily, because he really wants the man cub. The wolves decide to keep the man cub and give him a name: Mowgli. The Law of the Jungle says that the wolf pack must see all of the wolf cubs when they can walk, and look at them carefully.



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## DISCUSSION

At this point there are some questions that must be answered:

- What will Shere Khan do?
- Will Mother and Father Wolf be able to protect the man cub?
- Will Mother and Father Wolf follow the Law of the Jungle?

## PROCEDURE

### Before the lesson

- make a copy of the worksheet (one per student)
- download a photo of a wolf pack
- tell your students you're going to be speaking about a book called *The Jungle Book*
- read the background notes on the play to the class

### First Step (10 minutes)

Ask the students to comment on their first impressions and ask them this question.

- What genre do you think it is? Ask them to justify their answer.

Show the students the cover illustration and ask them this question

- What impression does the tiger on the cover give you?

### Second Step (30 minutes)

Give students the worksheet and explain that the text comes from Chapter 2 of the story.

Ask them to do EXERCISE 1, Comprehension check  
[KEY: 1b,2a,3c,4b]

- Ask them to work in pairs to check their answers.
- Read EXERCISE 2, *Extract Part 1*. You could read it out loud the first time to make the dialogue more dramatic.
- Ask the students to read it alone or in pairs for a more detailed understanding the second time.
- Then ask students to comment with their opinions, predictions, feelings and observations.
- Ask students to comment on this sentence of the text: *They can hear Shere Khan roaring in the night.*

Is Shere Khan going to be Mowgli's enemy throughout the story?  
How is Mowgli going to handle this terrible tiger?

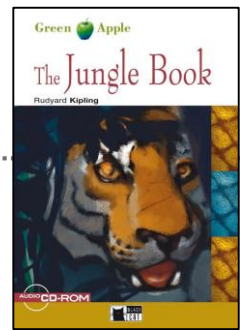
- Read EXERCISE 3, *Extract Part 2*
- Do the PREDICTION exercise 4. Ask students to predict what will

happen.



# LESSON PLAN

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## Last Step (5 minutes)

### Discussion

Ask students to watch the short trailer of the new 2018 film version, *Mowgli: Legend of the Jungle*, directed by Andy Serkis on the web.

Then they can compare Rudyard Kipling's book with the 2018 film, which is quite dark, sad and violent. In Kipling's story little Mowgli appears peacefully in the jungle and meets the wolf pack. But in the 2018 film version, Mowgli's parents are killed (off camera), but blood is visible. And baby Mowgli is seen with blood and mud, and he is crying desperately. This 2018 film has no humour, happiness or musical themes that made the Disney version so appealing; it is a young adult/adult movie that shows the dangers of the jungle. The 2016 Disney version is much closer to the book by Kipling, which was meant to give a different message to his readers.

