

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## A Different Choice

The Little Red Hen had spent days working hard. She had found wheat, planted it, watered it, harvested it, ground it into flour, and finally baked a delicious, golden loaf of bread. Every time she had asked for help, the Dog, the Cat, and the Duck had refused.

Now, as the warm scent of freshly baked bread filled the air, her three barnyard friends came running. "Who will help me eat this bread?" she asked.

"I will!" said the Dog, wagging his tail.

"I will!" said the Cat, licking her lips.

"I will!" said the Duck, flapping his wings.

The Little Red Hen thought for a moment. She had done all the work, and they had done nothing. Was it fair to share? In the original story, she had eaten the bread by herself. But what if she made a different choice?

Looking at her hungry friends, the Little Red Hen sighed. "I will share this bread with you," she said, "but only if you promise to help next time."

The animals eagerly nodded. They sat together and enjoyed the delicious bread, their stomachs full and their hearts warm. But did they really learn their lesson?

A few weeks later, the Little Red Hen found more wheat grains. Once again, she asked, "Who will help me plant the wheat?"

"Not I," said the Dog, rolling over in the grass.

"Not I," said the Cat, stretching.

"Not I," said the Duck, paddling in the pond.

The Little Red Hen frowned. She had given them another chance, but they had not changed. Because she had shared the bread, they believed they could get rewards without putting in the effort.

This time, when the bread was ready, the Little Red Hen made a different choice. "I gave you a chance before, but you did not learn," she said. "I will enjoy this bread myself."

As the animals watched her eat, they realized they had been unfair. They had taken her kindness for granted. They finally understood that to earn the reward, they had to put in the work.