

Name _____



Fairness Matters

The Little Red Hen lived on a small farm with a Dog, a Cat, and a Duck. One day, she found some grains of wheat. She knew that with hard work, she could turn them into delicious bread. However, she needed help.

"Who will help me plant the wheat?" she asked.

"Not I," said the Dog, stretching lazily.

"Not I," said the Cat, yawning.

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

So, the Little Red Hen planted the wheat herself. As it grew tall and golden, she asked again, "Who will help me harvest the wheat?"

"Not I," said the Dog.

"Not I," said the Cat.

"Not I," said the Duck.

Once again, she did the work alone. She then asked for help grinding the wheat into flour and later for baking the bread. Every time, the answer was the same—"Not I."

Finally, when the smell of warm bread filled the air, the Dog, Cat, and Duck came running.

"Who will help me eat this bread?" the Little Red Hen asked.

"I will!" the animals shouted eagerly.

But the Little Red Hen shook her head. "You did not help me plant, harvest, grind, or bake. It is only fair that I enjoy the bread myself." She sat down and ate, while the others watched, feeling regretful.

The Hen's decision may seem harsh, but it teaches an important lesson about fairness and justice. She worked hard for the reward, while the others avoided responsibility. Sharing the bread with them would have been unfair because they did not contribute. The animals learned that fairness means earning what you receive. Next time, they might choose to help instead of watching from the sidelines.