

Name _____



Hard Work Wins

The Little Red Hen was always busy on the farm. While the Dog napped in the sun, the Cat stretched lazily, and the Duck splashed in the pond, the Hen was hard at work. One day, she found some grains of wheat. She knew that with patience and effort, these tiny seeds could turn into delicious bread. But she would need help.

"Who will help me plant the wheat?" she asked. "Not I," said the Dog. "Not I," said the Cat. "Not I," said the Duck.

The Little Red Hen sighed but did not give up. She planted the wheat herself, watered it, and watched it grow. When it was ready to be harvested, she asked again, "Who will help me cut the wheat?"

"Not I," said the Dog. "Not I," said the Cat. "Not I," said the Duck.

The Hen once again took the job into her own hands. She worked tirelessly to harvest the wheat, grind it into flour, and finally bake a warm, golden loaf of bread. When the wonderful smell filled the air, the Dog, the Cat, and the Duck all came running.

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

"I will!" shouted the Dog.

"I will!" said the Cat.

"I will!" quacked the Duck.

But the Little Red Hen shook her head. "No, you did not help when there was work to be done, so you will not share in the reward." She sat down and enjoyed the bread all by herself.

This story teaches an important lesson about taking initiative and working hard. The Little Red Hen did not wait for others to help her—she took action. Even when others refused to join, she kept going and achieved success on her own. Her story encourages children to work hard and take responsibility. If you want to succeed, you cannot rely on others to do the work for you. You must take the first step, just like the Little Red Hen.