

Name _____



Repeating Lessons

The story of The Little Red Hen is a tale that teaches the importance of hard work and responsibility. One of the ways the story delivers its message is through repetition. The Little Red Hen asks the same question again and again, each time with a different task. The repeated phrases help show how the other animals refuse to help and how the Hen remains determined.

One day, the Little Red Hen finds some wheat grains in the barnyard. She immediately thinks about turning them into bread. But she knows it will take time and effort. "Who will help me plant the wheat?" she asks.

"Not I," says the Dog.

"Not I," says the Cat.

"Not I," says the Duck.

This pattern continues throughout the story. When the wheat grows tall and golden, the Hen asks, "Who will help me harvest the wheat?" Again, the same answers follow. The animals always refuse to help, showing how they do not want to do any work.

Next, the Hen must grind the wheat into flour. "Who will help me grind the wheat?" she asks once more. The animals give the same response. The story repeats the same structure, making it clear that the other animals do not change their behavior.

Finally, after baking a fresh, warm loaf of bread, the Little Red Hen asks, "Who will help me eat this bread?" This time, the Dog, the Cat, and the Duck eagerly shout, "I will!" But the Hen shakes her head. "Since I did all the work, I will eat it myself."

The repeated phrases in the story highlight an important lesson: those who do not work should not expect a reward. The animals' refusal to help is emphasized every time they say "Not I," making their laziness clear. The repetition also shows the Hen's persistence. She does not give up, even when no one helps her.

Through this pattern, the story teaches young readers that hard work leads to success, while laziness leads to disappointment. The repeated phrases help make this message easy to remember and understand.