Storyland Classics

FREE STORY GUIDE

A traditional folktale, retold by Florence White Williams (1918)



- ✦ Meet the Author
- ✦ The Big Idea & Try It
- ✦ Yes or No & ABC Order
- ✦ Read It With Voices
- ✦ Standards
- ✦ Story Map
- ✦ Word Match & Sort
- ✦ Put It in Order
- ✦ Handwriting
- ✦ Let's Talk
- ✦ Word Search
- ✦ Who Said It? & Feelings
- ✦ Answer Key

Ages 4–8 ✦ Pre-K to Grade 2 ✦ Aligned to Common Core

This cover is for your screen. Print from page 2 to save ink.

FOR GROWN-UPS

How to Use This Guide

This free guide goes with the Storyland Classics read-aloud of "The Little Red Hen." Every page is ready to print, and no sign-up is needed. Pick the pages that suit your child or class.

ABOUT THE STORY

A busy little red hen finds a seed of wheat. She asks the pig, the cat and the rat to help her plant it, cut it, thresh it, take it to the mill and bake the bread, and each time they say, "Not I." So she does every job herself. But when the bread comes out of the oven and she asks, "Who will eat the bread?" they all say, "I will!"

SKILL FOCUS

Repetition and sequence: the same question and answer happen again and again as the wheat becomes bread

WATCH AND READ ALONG

Scan the code to watch the read-aloud and read the full story, or visit storylandclassics.com/little-red-hen-guide. Florence White Williams, *The Little Red Hen* (1918). Public domain.

A simple routine

1. **Day 1.** Watch the read-aloud together, then fill in the Story Map.
2. **Day 2.** Meet the author, then use Let's Talk and The Big Idea.
3. **Day 3.** Learn the words with the word match, word sort and word search.
4. **Day 4.** Put the story in order, then perform it with voices.

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Standards

Every activity is aligned to the Common Core State Standards for kindergarten to grade 2. Codes appear at the bottom of each page, and the full table is on the last page.

Younger children

Children who aren't writing yet can answer out loud or tell a grown-up what to write.

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Name _____ Date _____

MEET THE AUTHOR

Florence White Williams

1890s–1953 ✦ Artist and storyteller

Florence White Williams was an American artist, born in Putney, Vermont. She studied at the Chicago Academy of Fine Arts and drew pictures for children's magazines. The Little Red Hen is a very old folktale, told for many years before anyone wrote it down. In 1918 Florence White Williams retold it in her own words and painted the pictures too. Her hen walks around the barnyard "in her picketty-pecketty fashion."

Questions About the Author

1. Florence White Williams was an artist. What did she draw?

2. Is The Little Red Hen a new story or a very old one?

3. If you made pictures for this story, what would you draw first?

Name _____ Date _____

STORY MAP

The Little Red Hen



Look at the picture from the read-aloud. Who do you see? Then fill in the story map.

Characters

Who is in the story?

Setting

Where and when does it happen?

Problem

What goes wrong?

Solution

How is it fixed? How does it end?

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CCSS RL.K.3 · RL.1.3 · RL.K.7

Name _____ Date _____

LET'S TALK

The Little Red Hen

Young children can answer out loud. Older children can write their answers.

REMEMBER

1. What did the little red hen find?

2. Who would not help her? What did they say?

3. Who ate the bread at the end?

THINK

4. Why did the pig, the cat and the rat want to help at the end?

5. Was the little red hen fair? Why or why not?

CONNECT

6. What jobs do you help with at home or at school?

NARRATION

Close the book and tell the story back in your own words. Can you name every step from the seed to the bread?

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Name _____ Date _____

THE BIG IDEA

What Does the Story Teach?

THE LESSON

Those who share the work can share the reward. Helping out is part of being a good friend.

What does this mean to you? Tell or write about a time it was true in your life.

Try It

SKILL FOCUS

Repetition and sequence: the same question and answer happen again and again as the wheat becomes bread

Write the steps from seed to bread in order: plant, cut, thresh, grind, bake. Then draw one step.

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Name _____ Date _____

WORDS TO KNOW

Word Match

Draw a line from each word to what it means.

seed	to beat wheat to get the grain out
wheat	the yard around a barn
harvest	a tiny thing that grows into a plant
thresh	a powder used to make bread
mill	picking crops when they are ready
flour	a curved tool for cutting wheat
barnyard	a grain plant used to make flour
sickle	a place where grain is ground into flour

Word Sort: Farm Animals or Farm Work?

Write each word in the right box.

pig · plant · cat · cut · rat · thresh · hen · bake

Farm animals	Farm work

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Name _____ Date _____

WORD SEARCH

The Little Red Hen

Find the words from the story. Words go across (left to right) and down (top to bottom). Circle each word, then check it off.

P	H	F	L	B	Y	J	N	S	C
E	V	L	R	A	T	Y	W	P	C
S	E	E	D	V	T	H	E	N	A
F	N	N	B	M	S	J	C	E	T
I	W	M	E	M	S	E	D	B	W
O	H	P	R	I	B	B	O	N	O
Y	E	I	M	L	W	I	U	I	E
K	A	G	U	L	V	E	E	M	K
C	T	A	B	D	O	M	G	D	N
I	N	O	F	S	B	R	E	A	D

WORD BANK

- ☐ HEN
- ☐ PIG
- ☐ CAT
- ☐ RAT
- ☐ SEED
- ☐ WHEAT
- ☐ BREAD
- ☐ MILL

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Name _____ Date _____

CHECK YOUR READING

Yes or No?

Read each sentence about the story. Circle **Yes** if it is true. Circle **No** if it is not.

1. The little red hen found a wheat seed. Yes No
2. The pig helped plant the seed. Yes No
3. The hen cut the wheat by herself. Yes No
4. The cat took the wheat to the mill. Yes No
5. The bread came out brown and good. Yes No
6. The hen shared the bread with the pig, the cat and the rat. Yes No

ABC Order

Write these words from the story in ABC order.

wheat · hen · bread · pig · mill

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

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Name _____ Date _____

PUT IT IN ORDER

What Happens First?

Read each sentence. Write 1 in the circle next to what happens first, 2 next to what happens next, and so on up to 6.

- ◯ The hen takes the wheat to the mill.
- ◯ The hen finds a wheat seed.
- ◯ The hen eats the bread herself.
- ◯ The hen cuts the wheat.
- ◯ The hen bakes the bread.
- ◯ The hen plants the seed.

Retell the Story

Use the order words to tell the story in your own words. Say it out loud, or write it.

First, _____

Next, _____

Then, _____

Last, _____

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CHARACTERS

Who Said It?

Read each line from the story. Write who said it. Use the name bank to help.

the little red hen | the pig, the cat and the rat

"Who will plant the seed?" _____

"Not I." _____

"Then I'll do it myself." _____

"I will!" _____

"No, you won't. I will eat it myself." _____

How Did the little red hen Feel?

Write a feeling word for each part of the story. Use the word bank, or choose your own.

busy | hopeful | tired | proud | happy | cross | excited

When…	the little red hen felt…
she found the seed	
no one would help plant it	
she carried the wheat to the mill	
the bread was baking	
the bread came out just right	
everyone wanted to eat it	

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Name _____ Date _____

PERFORM IT

Read It With Voices

Four readers take the parts. Everyone can say "Not I!" together in a lazy voice.

HEN	"Who will plant the seed?"
PIG, CAT, RAT	"Not I." "Not I." "Not I."
HEN	"Well, then, I'll do it myself."
HEN	"Who will make the bread?"
PIG, CAT, RAT	"Not I." "Not I." "Not I."
HEN	"Who will eat the bread?"
PIG, CAT, RAT	"I will!" "I will!" "I will!"
HEN	"No, you won't. I will eat it myself."

My Favorite Part

My favorite part is _____

_____

because _____

_____

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Name _____ Date _____

HANDWRITING PRACTICE

The Little Red Hen

Trace the gray words, then write them on your own on the empty lines. Tall letters touch the top line; small letters reach the dotted line.

Who will plant the seed?

Who will plant the seed?

Who will plant the seed?

I'll do it myself.

I'll do it myself.

I'll do it myself.

☐ I started with a capital letter. ☐ I left spaces between words. ☐ I copied the end mark.

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FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key & Ideas

Story Map

Characters: the little red hen and her chicks, the pig, the cat, the rat, the miller. Setting: a barnyard on a farm. Problem: the hen has a lot of work to do and no one will help. Solution: she does every job herself, so she eats the bread herself.

Let's Talk

1. A wheat seed. 2. The pig, the cat and the rat; they said "Not I." 3. The little red hen (and her chicks). 4–6. Answers will vary (they smelled the bread; many children think she was fair because she did all the work).

Word Search

P	H	F	L	B	Y	J	N	S	C
E	V	L	**R**	**A**	**T**	Y	W	P	**C**
S	**E**	**E**	**D**	V	T	**H**	**E**	**N**	**A**
F	N	N	B	M	S	J	C	E	**T**
I	**W**	M	E	**M**	S	E	D	B	W
O	**H**	**P**	R	**I**	B	B	O	N	O
Y	**E**	**I**	M	**L**	W	I	U	I	E
K	**A**	**G**	U	**L**	V	E	E	M	K
C	**T**	A	B	D	O	M	G	D	N
I	N	O	F	S	**B**	**R**	**E**	**A**	**D**

Word Match & Sort

seed: a tiny thing that grows into a plant · wheat: a grain plant used to make flour · harvest: picking crops when they are ready · thresh: to beat wheat to get the grain out · mill: a place where grain is ground into flour · flour: a powder used to make bread · barnyard: the yard around a barn · sickle: a curved tool for cutting wheat. Sort: Farm animals: pig, cat, rat, hen. Farm work: plant, cut, thresh, bake.

Yes or No? & ABC Order

1. Yes · 2. No · 3. Yes · 4. No · 5. Yes · 6. No. ABC order: bread, hen, mill, pig, wheat.

Put It in Order

finds a wheat seed → plants the seed → cuts the wheat → takes it to the mill → bakes the bread → eats the bread herself.

Who Said It?

1. the little red hen · 2. the pig, the cat and the rat · 3. the little red hen · 4. the pig, the cat and the rat · 5. the little red hen

Ideas to extend the lesson

- Bake simple bread or muffins and talk about where flour comes from.
- Plant a seed in a cup and take turns caring for it.
- Make a class helpers chart: who will do each job this week?

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FOR TEACHERS

Standards Alignment

The Little Red Hen ✦ Common Core State Standards, kindergarten to grade 2

STANDARDS	WHAT CHILDREN PRACTICE	WHERE IN THIS GUIDE
RL.K.1 RL.1.1 RL.2.1	Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.	Let's Talk and Yes or No?; Let's Talk
RL.K.2 RL.1.2 RL.2.2	Retell stories and poems, including key details, and show understanding of their message.	Put It in Order and Retell; Put It in Order and Retell; The Big Idea; The Big Idea
RL.K.3 RL.1.3 RL.2.3	Identify and describe characters, settings and major events.	Story Map and Character Feelings; Character Feelings
RL.K.4	Understand words and phrases, including rhyme, rhythm and words that appeal to the senses.	Word Match
RL.K.6 RL.1.6 RL.2.6	Identify who is speaking and use a different voice for each character when reading aloud.	Meet the Author; Who Said It?; Read It With Voices
RL.K.7 RL.1.7	Use illustrations and words together to describe characters, setting and events.	Story Map picture
RL.K.10 RL.1.10	Engage in group reading of poems and stories with purpose and understanding.	Reading the story together
RF.K.1b RF.K.1d	Understand the organization of print (left to right, top to bottom).	Word Search; ABC Order
RF.K.3c RF.1.3	Read common high-frequency words by sight.	Word Search
RF.1.4b RF.2.4b	Read aloud with accuracy, appropriate rate and expression.	Read It With Voices
SL.K.1 SL.1.1	Take part in conversations about the text with classmates and adults.	Let's Talk (discussion)
SL.K.2	Ask and answer questions about a text read aloud or presented through media.	Read-aloud video (QR code)
SL.K.5	Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions as desired to provide additional detail.	Try It (drawing to add detail)
SL.K.6	Speak audibly and express ideas clearly.	Read It With Voices
L.K.1a L.1.1 L.1.1a	Print upper- and lowercase letters and use common position words.	Handwriting Practice; ABC Order
L.K.2a	Use capital letters and end punctuation.	Handwriting checklist
L.K.4 L.1.4	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown words and phrases.	Word Match
L.K.5a	Sort words into categories, connect words to real life and act out shades of meaning.	Word Sort
W.K.1 W.1.1	Use drawing and writing to share an opinion and give a reason.	My Favorite Part
W.K.2	Use a combination of drawing, dictating and writing to compose informative texts.	Try It
W.1.8	With guidance and support, recall information from experiences or gather information to answer a question.	Try It

Codes are Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts. Find free read-alouds and guides at storylandclassics.com.

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