

Folktale

Sheep and Pig Set Up Housekeeping

• A Norwegian Folktale •

retold by Chloe Roberts • illustrated by Reggie Holladay



Mc
Graw
Hill

PAIRED
READ

Sheep and Wolves

STRATEGIES & SKILLS

Comprehension

Strategy: Visualize

Skill: Problem and Solution

Vocabulary Strategy

Synonyms

Vocabulary

disbelief, dismay, fabulous,
features, offered, splendid,
unique, watchful

Content Standards

Science

Life Science

Word count: 1,840**

**The total word count is based on words in the running text and headings only. Numerals and words in captions, labels, diagrams, charts, and sidebars are not included.



Education

Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means, or stored in a database or retrieval system, without the prior written consent of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., including, but not limited to, network storage or transmission, or broadcast for distance learning.

Send all inquiries to:
McGraw-Hill Education
Two Penn Plaza
New York, New York 10121

ISBN: 978-0-02-118842-0
MHID: 0-02-118842-4

Printed in the United States.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 DOC 15 14 13 12 11 10

A



Essential Question

What makes different animals unique?

Sheep and Pig Set Up Housekeeping

• A Norwegian Folktale •

retold by Chloe Roberts • illustrated by Reggie Holladay

Chapter 1

Leaving the Farm 2

Chapter 2

New Friends 5

Chapter 3

Dangerous Neighbors 12

Respond to Reading..... 16

**PAIRED
READ**

Sheep and Wolves..... 17

Focus on Genre..... 20

Leaving the Farm



Once upon a time, a sheep was being fattened up for a feast. He spent his days in a pen, stuffing himself with food. One day, the farmer arrived with some especially delicious morsels. She looked at the sheep's rotund shape and said, "It pleases me to see you looking so plump. Enjoy your last meal, Sheep, for tomorrow you will be food for someone else."

The sheep listened in disbelief. He had thought he was the luckiest sheep in the world. “It seems I am not the farmer’s favorite after all,” said the sheep to himself. “She seemed so happy with my roly-poly cuddliness, but she only wanted to make a meal of me.”

The sheep decided it was time he left the farm. But first, he ate every last scrap of the food he had been given. “No point wasting any,” he thought. “To escape I will need all of my strength.”

After the sheep ate, he took a nap because too much food always made him sleepy. When he awoke he knew what he had to do. Using the full weight of his large body, he pushed down the door of his pen and escaped.



The sheep walked to a neighboring farm where his friend the pig lived. The pig was in his sty, eating a big meal.

“Hello, Pig, my portly pal. You look very well fed, as usual. But have you ever wondered why they feed you so well?”

“Good to see you, too, Sheep,” said the pig. “I must admit, I don’t know what I’ve done to deserve such splendid rations. I’m just an ordinary pig.”

“I will tell you, Pig,” said the sheep. “I discovered this morning that we are being fattened for food. Today we eat, but tomorrow we will be eaten.”

“What can we do?” squealed the pig in dismay. “I don’t want to be somebody’s dinner!”

“I have an idea,” said the sheep. “We could go to the woods, build a house, and live there together.”

“I like that idea,” said the pig.

So the two friends headed for the woods, eager to start building their house.

New Friends

As the sheep and the pig walked toward the woods, they met Goose.

“Hello, Sheep. Hello, Pig. Where are you two headed in such a hurry?” said the goose.

“Well, Goose, we just learned the truth about why we were so well fed at home,” said the pig. “They offered banquets for bacon...”

“...and snacks for rack of lamb,” said the sheep. “So we have decided to set up house together.”

“I have always wanted a home of my own,” said the goose, “and it might be fun to set up house with friends. Surely three will do as well as two. May I join you?”



“What unique skills do you have, Goose, besides gossiping and gabbling?” asked the sheep. “After all, we have a house to build.”

“I have excellent skills,” said the goose, offended. “I can pluck moss and stuff it between planks of wood to keep the house warm and dry.”

“I do like a nice cozy house,” said the pig.

“A dry house is a comfortable house,” said the sheep.

And so it was agreed that the goose would set up house with the sheep and the pig.

The three friends continued along the road. The sheep and pig trotted along, while the goose waddled between them.





As they proceeded down the road, a hare bounded out from behind a bush.

“Hello, friends,” said the hare. “How far are you going today? I will walk with you for a while.”

“We three are going to the woods. There we plan to build a house to live in together,” said the goose.

“That sounds like an interesting plan,” said the hare. “In summer I can make a home under any bush. But in the winter I wish I had a roof over my head. Every year I say to myself, if I survive the winter I will build a proper house.”

“Perhaps now is the time,” said the goose.

“How would you three feel if I set up housekeeping with you?” said the hare.

“I’m not sure you will be much help with the house building,” said the pig doubtfully. “What skills do you have—apart from the ability to annoy dogs?”

“You will find that I have very good carpentry skills,” said the hare. “I can gnaw wood into pegs with my teeth and then hammer them into the wall.”

Everyone agreed that the hare had useful skills. So the hare joined the band of friends and they walked on.

Almost immediately they met a rooster. “Hello, hello. You look to be a merry band. Where are you all going on this fabulous day?” said the rooster.

“Hello to you,” said the sheep. “Pig and I were being fattened up, and we learned why just in time. We are off to the woods to build our own house, and Goose and Hare have joined us.”

“Well, what a good idea,” said the rooster. “I’ve heard it said that roosters crow loudest at home, and yet I have never had a home. May I join your group?”

“First you must tell us what you can contribute. We know you have a loud voice, but how will your ear-splitting noises help us build our house?” said the pig.

“Well, Sheep, my crowing will wake everyone early to make a start on the day’s work,” said the rooster. “There will be no sleeping in while I’m around.”

“I must say, I’m a heavy sleeper. I always have trouble waking up early,” said the pig. “It might be useful to have our very own alarm clock.”



“You are right,” said the sheep. “We will need all the hours in the day to get the house built.”

“I go along with that,” said the goose. “Rooster will be a valuable addition to the group.”

“So we all agree,” said the hare. “Rooster comes with us. Now, let us hurry, for we are almost at the woods.”

The band of animals walked the rest of the way to the woods with no interruptions.

“This clearing is the perfect spot to build a house,” said the sheep. “There is plenty of grass for me to graze on.”

“There is a nice patch of mud for me to wallow in,” said the pig.

“It is next to a stream, so I can swim when I want to,” said the goose.

“That tree is perfect for perching on,” said the rooster.

And so they built their house. The pig cut the wood; the sheep hauled it home; the hare cut and hammered pegs to join the wood; the goose plucked moss and stuffed it between the planks; and the rooster made sure they all woke up early.

To keep the house warm and dry, they lined the roof with birch bark and thatched it with turf. When their new home was finished, the friends all lived there happily together.



Dangerous Neighbors

Not far from the little house in the clearing, a couple of gray wolves had their den. Wolves are naturally watchful, and these wolves kept a close eye on all the happenings in the neighborhood. When they saw the little house, they became curious.

“It seems we have new neighbors,” said the first wolf, whose name was Wolfgang.

“They have built a very snug-looking house,” said the second wolf, whose name was Grayling.

“I will introduce myself,” said Wolfgang.

“We wolves make some animals nervous,” said Grayling. “Try not to frighten them.”

“I have a clever plan,” said Wolfgang. “I will visit this evening and ask to borrow matches to light our fire.”



That evening, Wolfgang visited the little house. The door was open, so he wandered in. But as he entered the house, the sheep butted him so hard that he fell against the stove and scorched his fur. Then the pig bit him, the goose pecked him, the rooster crowed loudly in his ear, and the hare raced to every corner of the house, scratching and scrambling.

Wolfgang kept his eyes closed and tried to protect himself from the blows, running around in circles until eventually he found the way out.



Wolfgang escaped from the house and ran straight into Grayling, who was waiting for him.

“Well, what did you learn about our new neighbors,” Grayling asked impatiently. “You must have received a warm welcome, as you were gone so long. But where are the matches?”

“A warm welcome indeed—too warm!” said Wolfgang. “There are fierce humans living in that house. As soon as I got inside the door one of them picked me up and threw me against the stove. Then two more pinched and punched me.”

“How many humans do you think there were?” asked Grayling nervously.



“It was impossible to tell,” said Wolfgang. “I could hear them running around the house on their huge feet; it seemed they were rounding up an army against me. Somewhere near the roof one of them was screeching ‘Get the wolf! Get the wolf!’ I was very lucky to survive.”

“We must stay away from these ferocious humans,” said Grayling.

“I agree,” said Wolfgang.

And from that day on, the wolves never called on their neighbors again.

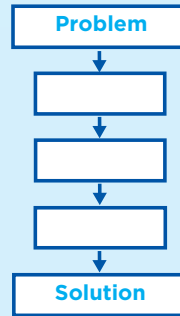


Respond to Reading

Summarize

Think about the animals in *Sheep and Pig Set Up Housekeeping*.

Summarize what was special about each animal. Use your chart to help you.



Text Evidence

1. How can you tell this story is a folktale? Identify one feature that tells you this. **GENRE**
2. What is the first problem Sheep and Pig need to solve? How do they solve it? **PROBLEM AND SOLUTION**
3. What does the word *rotund* on page 2 mean? What nearby word helps you figure it out? **SYNONYMS**
4. Write about why the wolf's visit is a problem for the animals. How do they solve the problem? **WRITE ABOUT READING**

Compare Texts

Read about the unique features of sheep and of wolves.

Sheep and Wolves

Many folktales feature sheep and wolves. How much do you know about the real animals?

Sheep

There are more than one billion sheep on Earth. Many live on farms. Others live wild in places such as the United States, Russia, and Turkey. Wild sheep are sure-footed and wary. If predators follow them up steep cliffs, wild sheep sometimes butt them off the cliff.

Sheep flock together to graze on grass or other greenery. They huddle together to keep warm. Their woolly coats protect them from the weather. Most wild sheep have an outer coat of coarse hair and a short, downy undercoat of fine wool.



Coarse coats protect wild sheep from harsh conditions.



The only defense domestic sheep have is to flock together. Farmers build pens and fences to protect them.

People have been keeping sheep for thousands of years. Sheep that have been tamed have features that are valuable to farmers. Sheep can be raised on almost any type of land. They do not need to be fed special food. Sheep will eat almost anything that's green.

Farmed sheep do not have a hairy outer coat. The fine undercoat of wild sheep has become a coat of thick wool, or fleece. When the fleece is cut off, it soon grows again. People use the fleece to make clothing.



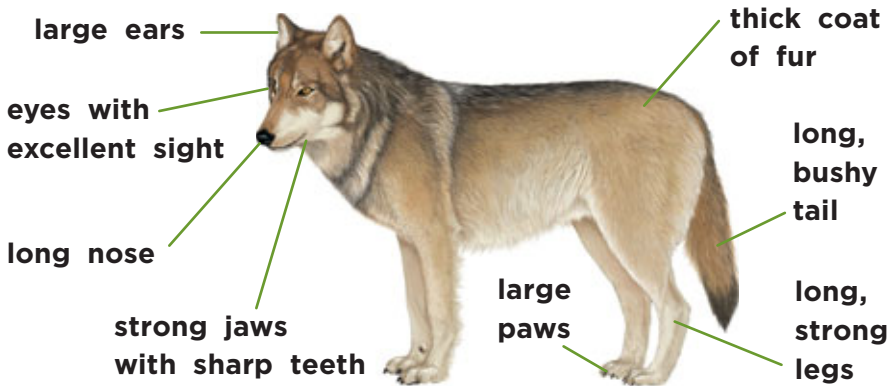
Wild Sheep	Farmed Sheep
outer coat of coarse hair	no outer coat of hair
undercoat of fine wool	coat of thick wool
roam wild	live in fenced areas

Wolves

Wolves are members of the dog family. They are known for their intelligence, courage, and endurance. They live mainly in wilderness areas in North America, Canada, and parts of Europe.

Wolves are predators that hunt at night in organized groups. They have very large hunting territories. Wolves are the natural enemies of wild sheep. Wolves also attack farmed sheep. This has led to many wolves being killed by humans.

Features of Wolves



Make Connections

What are some of the unique qualities of sheep and wolves described in *Sheep and Wolves*?

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

What qualities make different animals unique? Use examples from *Sheep and Pig Set Up Housekeeping* and *Sheep and Wolves* to support your response.

TEXT TO TEXT

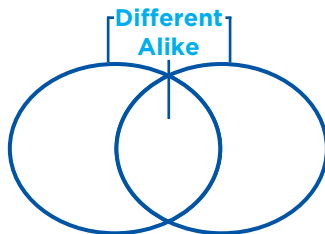
Focus on Genre

Folktales Folktales are stories passed on from one person to the next by word of mouth or by oral tradition. Folktales are not realistic and can include talking animals and magical events.

Read and Find *Sheep and Pig Set Up Housekeeping* is a folktale from Norway that has been retold. The story is not realistic. It has animals as characters. The animals do not act in a realistic way.

Your Turn

Choose two animals and think of the qualities they share, as well as the qualities that make them unique. Use the chart to help you. Write a folktale in which the two animals you chose decide to set up housekeeping together.



Thinkmark

Plot

What was the main problem faced by the sheep and the pig?

How did they solve the problem?

Sequence of Events

What happened in this story?

What happened *first*, *then*, *next*, and *finally*?

Author's Purpose

What is the author's purpose for retelling *Sheep and Pig Set Up Housekeeping*?

Make Connections

How is *Sheep and Pig Set Up Housekeeping* like other folktales you have read?

Be Unique

GR Q • Benchmark 40 • Lexile [t/k]

Grade 3 • Unit 3 Week 1

www.mheonline.com

The McGraw-Hill Companies



Education

ISBN-13 978-0-02-118842-0
MHID 0-02-118842-4

