

# The Little Red Hen

Illustrated by J.P. Miller

This classic folktale is beautifully illustrated and the repetition of story can be easily acted out by even the smallest child. *The Little Red Hen* teaches children a valuable lesson about working together and sharing.



## Read

### Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *Has anyone tried making their own bread? What was it like?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder why Hen is digging?

### During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

### Rare Words in *The Little Red Hen*

- grain: small seed or cereal crop
- wheat: edible grain or cereal crop
- reap: gather crop
- mill: flour-making factory
- flour: finely ground cereal grain used in making breads, cakes, pastry and as a sauce thickener
- dough: mixture of flour and water

### After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What did Hen ask her friends to help her with?
- What kind of animals are Hen's friends?
- What did they tell Hen when she asked them to help her?
- What kind of things did Hen do in the story?
- When did her friends finally want to help her?
- Why didn't Hen let them eat the bread?

## Do

### Sharing and Helping is Good!

Snack Time: A fun and easy baking of bread tasting activity. If available, bake bread in a bread machine. The children can help measure and pour the ingredients. If a bread machine is not available, you can purchase any kind of bread. The children can help by handing out snack supplies and taking turns passing out the bread and peanut butter/butter/jelly.