

1. Once upon a time, there was a little red hen.
2. She had three friends: Dopey the dog, Oscar, the pig, and Little Little Peanut, a mouse.
3. One day, the three friends were in the backyard eating goose liver and watercress sandwiches when the Little Red Hen saw something in the grass.
4. "Look!" she cried, "Someone must have spilled a sack of grain. Who will help me pick it up?"
5. "Not I!" said Dopey the dog, who was working on his suntan.
6. "Not I!" said Percy the pig, who was wallowing in his mud hole.
7. "I will!" said Little Peanut. "I can suntan later."
8. "OK," said the Little Red Hen. "Little Peanut and I will pick up the grain." And they did.
9. The next day, the Little Red Hen said, "Say, friends, I am going to grind the wheat that Little Peanut and I picked up yesterday. Who will help me turn that big heavy wheel?"
10. "Not I," said Dopey. "I'm too busy eating my lunch."
11. "Not I," said Percy, who was still in the mud hole.
12. "I will," said Little Peanut. "I can eat my lunch later." So they ground the wheat, although the big wheel was too heavy for Little Peanut! The Little Red Hen and Little Peanut sweated and strained as they ground the wheat.
13. "I'm going to bake bread," said the Little Red Hen. "Will someone help me knead the dough?"
14. "Are you kidding?" said Dopey. "It is time for my nap."

15. "It's not convenient right now," said Percy, who was still in his mud hole.
16. "I will," said Little Peanut, and he went right away to help knead the bread.
17. Once the dough was kneaded, the Little Red Hen put it into pans, let it rise, and put it in the oven. Little Peanut cleaned up the kitchen and did the dishes. Then they BOTH sat down to rest.
18. The bread smelled so good while it was baking that Dopey wandered over from his shady spot under the tree and Percy finally got out of his mud hole. Percy and Dopey said, "Oh, that smells so good! Can we have some hot bread and butter?"
19. The Little Red Hen shook her head and said, "No, Little Peanut and I picked up the grain, ground it, kneaded it, and baked it, while you two were lazing around doing nothing to help. So Little Peanut and I will have fresh bread with peanut butter and milk for our dinner."
20. "What?" whined the dog. "What?" squealed the pig. We thought you were our friend! Don't friends share?"
21. "Sure," said the Little Red Hen. "But you were both too busy getting a sun tan, eating your lunch, and wallowing in your mud hole to help with the work. You were too lazy to help. Good friends share the work AND the reward."
22. "Yum yum," said Little Peanut, who was busily eating his bread and peanut butter. "I agree!" said the Little Red Hen, as she drank her glass of milk.