

## (1) Book! Book! Book!

Down on the farm, everything was fine until the children returned to school, leaving the animals with nothing to do.

Under the bright morning sun, the horse drooped its head, the cow grumbled softly, and the goat muttered unhappily. The pig pouted, the duck nodded off, and the hen sighed deeply. Each of them longed for the playful company of the children, the rides on the horse's back, the tug-of-war games, and the gentle scratches behind their ears.

Around noon, feeling restless, and eager for adventure, the hen decided to seek excitement beyond the farm. "I'm fed up! I'm heading to town to find something to do!" said the hen. The horse suggested they explore the nearby town's library, a fascinating place full of stories, knowledge, and fun activities. All the animals were excited about the idea. They decided to visit the town library.

"Look!" clucked the hen. "Happy faces. This must be the place we're looking for. I'll go in and see if I can find something to do."

"Neigh! Neigh!" whinnied the horse. "You're too small for such a great job. You might need some help. Let me handle this."

With a clip-clop, the horse entered the library. He politely requested something to do, but the librarian couldn't understand his language. All she heard was, "Neigh! Neigh!" Depressed, the horse hung his head and left the library.

Next, the cow plodded in. She too politely asked for some tasks to do. But to her dismay, the librarian couldn't understand her language either. All she heard was, "Moo! Moo!" Frustrated, the cow complained and left.

Now it was the goat's turn. He trotted in and gently proposed to take on something, but his attempts were met with the librarian's confusion at his "Baaah! Baaah!" Annoyed, the goat grumbled and left.

As the sun began to cast long shadows across the town, the pig timidly made her way into the library. Kindly, she expressed interest in volunteering for tasks. But her words fell on deaf ears, as the librarian could only hear the simple "Oink! Oink!" of the pig's speech. So, the pig left to tell her friends, "Nobody listened to me!"

Up flapped the hen, and she announced, "I'm going in, and no one is going to stop me!" Determined, the hen flapped into the library.

"Book!" she clucked politely. Confused, the librarian looked around and asked, "What's that noise?"

"Book! Book!" clucked the hen once more. The librarian looked around again and scratched her head. "Who's making all that racket?" she said.

"Book! Book! Book!" clucked the hen quite clearly. Finally, the librarian got it. She handed the hen three books. "Oh! Is this what you want?" she asked.

Excited, all the animals cheered and shouted, "Hurray!" Then, they returned to the farm. They gathered around the books and filled the barnyard with neighs, moos, baaahs, oinks, quacks, and book-book-books! Their sounds of delight lasted until sundown.

All the animals were really happy, except for the bullfrog. And do you know what he said?

"I've already read it! Read it, read it, read it..."