

Table of Contents

Little Buddies Picture Clues and Phonics Fun Chart	3
Little Buddies Phonics Tips for BIG Reading Results	4
Meet the Little Buddies!	5
Little Buddies Phonics Fun Story Words	6

Little Buddies Letter Sounds, Stories, and Activities

The Sound of **st**

<i>The Story of Stone Stew</i> story and activities	7
“Who Stays on the Farm?” mini book	17

The Sound of **cr**

<i>Crash!</i> story and activities	21
“Crack Open Colors” mini book	31

The Sound of **sh**

<i>Shy Sheep</i> story and activities	35
“A Time to Share” mini book	45

The Sound of **gr**

<i>Green Grass</i> story and activities	49
“When I Grow Up” mini book	59

The Sound of **ch**

<i>Charlie</i> story and activities	63
“It’s Bath Time, Children” mini book	73

The Sound of **sl**

<i>Slip and Slide</i> story and activities	77
“Too Sleepy!” mini book	87

Answer Key	91
----------------------	----

Little Buddies Phonics Fun Award	95
--	----

Little Buddies Picture Clues & Phonics Fun Chart

Little Buddies like to have fun doing activities on their own—just like your own child—so look for these helpful picture clues in the activity directions.



Write or trace or match



Draw a circle around



Cross out



Say the name



Color or draw a picture

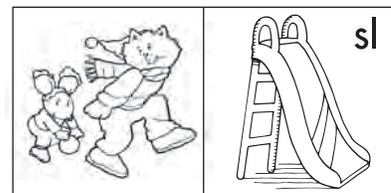
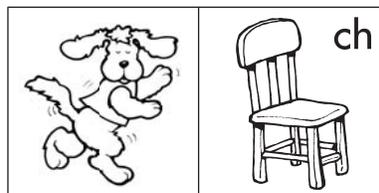
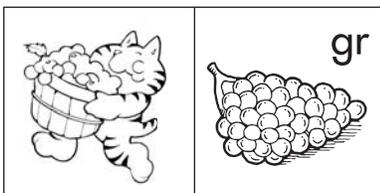
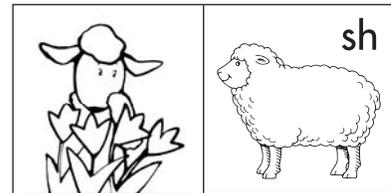
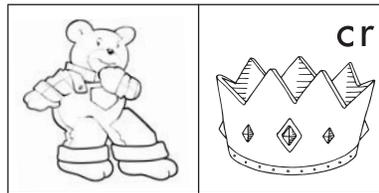
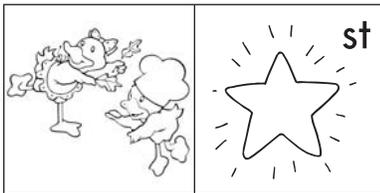


Cut out



Glue

All of the Little Buddies characters in this workbook—Daisy and Quacky, Bear, Coco, Gus, Charlie, and Cat and Mouse—appear on collector’s cards on the back side of the Little Buddies Phonics Fun Chart at the back of this book.



Look for their corresponding letter-sound pictures tucked into activities for each Little Buddies story. Have your child color, cut out, and glue the pictures to the inside of the chart to match with the characters on the back side. The Little Buddies Phonics Fun Chart can be used as a bookmark while your child enjoys the activities, or it can be cut apart to create personalized Little Buddies collector’s cards—collect all 36 cards in the Little Buddies Phonics Fun series!

Little Buddies Phonics Tips for BIG Reading Results

Phonics is one of the five essential steps that children must master in order to read. Practicing these five steps helps children learn to be good readers.

1 Phonemic awareness. This is the ability to recognize that spoken words are made up of many different individual sounds. For example, young learners need to hear the beginning, middle, and ending sounds when someone says *cat*.

2 Phonics. This is the ability to recognize that letters—and certain groups of letters—appearing in printed words represent different sounds. Children who have been taught phonics can accurately recognize familiar words automatically and can “decode,” or figure out, new words.

3 Reading fluency. This is the ability to quickly and accurately decode a passage of words for meaning. Readers who are weak in fluency read slowly, word by word, focusing on decoding words instead of automatically recognizing them and understanding what they mean.

4 Vocabulary development. At this step, children actively build and expand their knowledge of the meanings and pronunciations of new words—both written and spoken.

5 Reading comprehension. This is the step when children become purposeful, active readers by acquiring strategies to understand, remember, and communicate what has been read.

Here are some tips for practicing phonics and promoting reading success at home.

- Talk with your child all the time about subjects that he or she finds interesting.
- Sing songs, recite rhymes and poems with repeating phrases, tell riddles and knock-knock jokes, and share stories that you enjoyed as a child.
- Make up stories while traveling in the car. Start with a silly beginning sentence, such as “Once upon a time, there was a skunk in our bathtub.” Take turns adding new sentences aloud.
- Have your child describe a favorite story character, family relative, birthday present, or costume.
- Notice and talk about road signs, menus, and advertisements with your child when traveling. When at the grocery store, have your child read the letters and words on boxes and cans.
- Keep a wide variety of books, newspapers, and children’s magazines at home, and carry reading material with you whenever you have free time, such as while waiting at the doctor’s office. Let your child see you read often for your own benefit so your child realizes that reading is important and enjoyable.
- Establish a reading time, such as after dinner or before bed, to help your child get into the habit of reading every day. Make reading time a warm, pleasant experience. Sit close to your child, snuggle, laugh, and have fun. As you read aloud, ask your child about the pictures in the story, the characters, and what he or she thinks will happen next. Read aloud with expression. Use different voices for the different characters and add sound effects to the story.
- Visit the library often with your child. Take advantage of library story times, and pick out books together to bring home.

Meet the Little Buddies!

Each Little Buddy appears in a story that features the sound made by a pair of consonants. Meet the Little Buddies and their featured letter sounds in this workbook:



Daisy & Quacky

help children learn the sound of **st**.

Using sticks, stones, and a steady stream of other stuff, Daisy and Quacky stir up some stone stew so their friends won't starve! Look for Daisy and Quacky in Little Buddies Phonics Fun Books 1 and 2, also.



Bear helps children learn the sound of **cr**.

Poor Bear! Crackers, cream, and crates are crashing all around him because the store is too crowded. Look for Bear in Little Buddies Phonics Fun Book 1, also.



Coco helps children learn the sound of **sh**.

Where should shy sheep hide? In the shower, behind the shed, or under the sheets? Look for Coco in Little Buddies Phonics Fun Book 1, also.



Gus helps children learn the sound of **gr**.

Green grapes grow in Grandma's garden. What other green things will Gus find there? Look for Gus in Little Buddies Phonics Fun Book 1, also.



Charlie helps children learn the sound of **ch**.

When he's not chewing on shoes, Charlie is a charming pup who chooses to cha-cha and chit-chat with chums!



Cat & Mouse help children learn the sound of **sl**.

Cat doesn't like to go slowly, so sledding means a lot of slipping and sliding for Mouse!

Little Buddies Phonics Fun Story Words

Each Little Buddies Phonics Fun story features words that target a specific sound created by a pair of consonants. Parents, prior to reading each story, you may want to read these words aloud with your child. Emphasizing consonant letter pair sounds helps support your child's mastery of phonics, a critical early step in achieving reading success.

The story **Stone Stew** features these words with the sound of **st**:

- start
- stones
- stir
- sticks
- stone
- stew

The story **Crash!** features these words with the sound of **cr**:

- Crash
- crackers
- cream
- crack
- crate
- crumbs
- crowded

The story **Shy Sheep** features these words with the sound of **sh**:

- shy
- sheep
- washing
- dishes
- shed
- shower
- shh
- shout
- sheets

The story **Green Grass** features these words with the sound of **gr**:

- Grandma's
- grapes
- greenest
- grow
- green
- grass
- grows
- ground

The story **Charlie** features these words with the sound of **ch**:

- Charlie
- cha-cha-cha
- chews
- chomps
- chili
- ah-choo
- chit-chat
- chums
- chomp
- chewing

The story **Slip and Slide** features these words with the sound of **sl**:

- sled
- slide
- slowly
- slip
- slower
- slow
- sledding
- sleepy

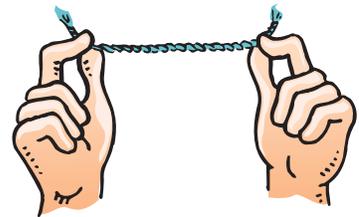
The Story of Stone Stew



Trace the letters **st**.



These things have the sound of **st**, as in **star**.



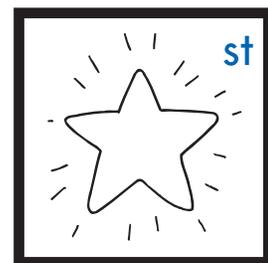
Color the star.



Cut out the star.



Glue it on the **st** space inside the Little Buddies Phonics Chart.



st



Circle the letters **st** in the words below.

stay

stand

stool

stick

stood

start

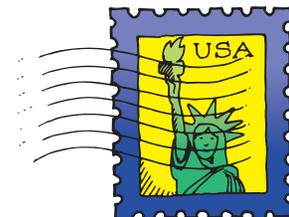
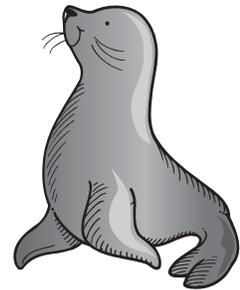
state

stone

stop



Circle the things that have the sound of **st**, as in **star**.





We start with some stones.



Trace the letters **st** in the words below.

stone

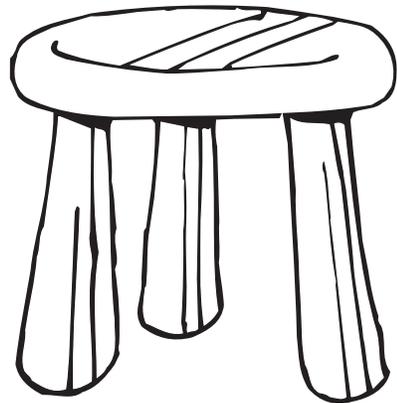
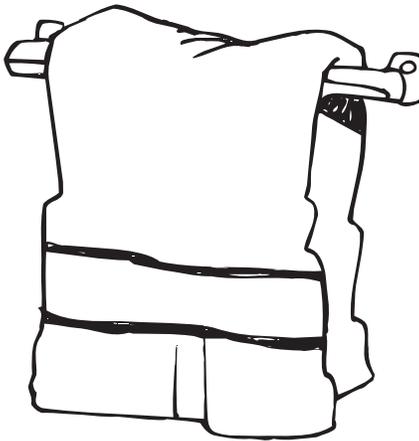
stew

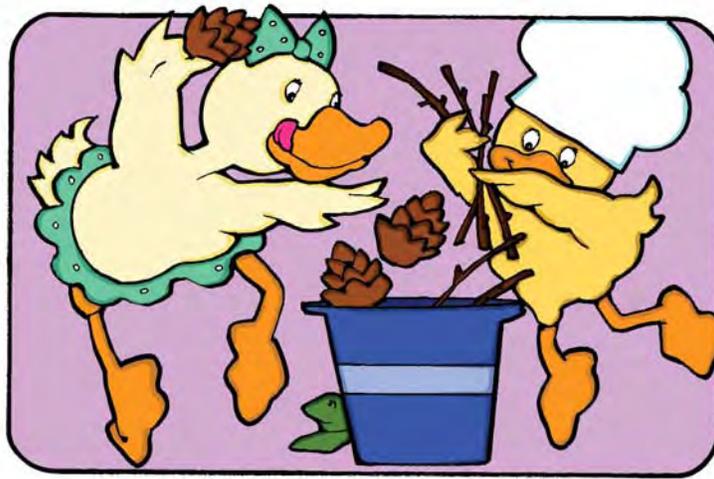


We stir them into our pot.



Color the picture that has the sound of **st**, as in **star**.

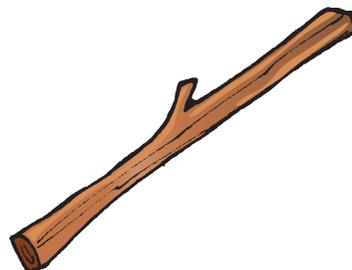
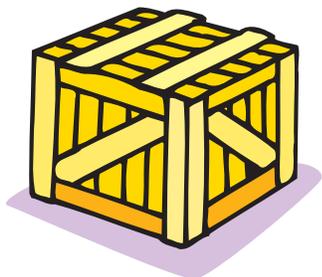
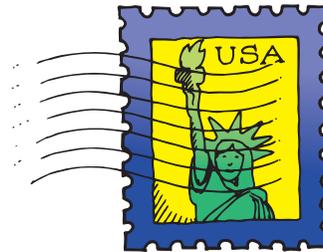
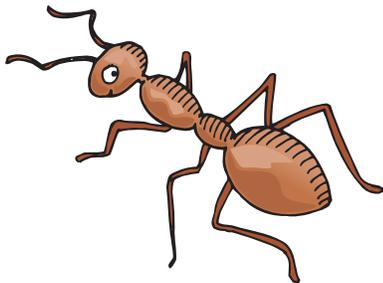


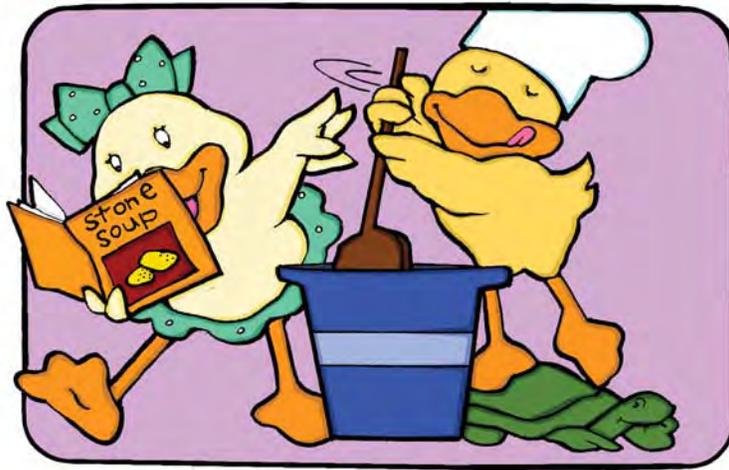


We add nuts and sticks,



Circle the things that have the sound of **st**, as in **star**.

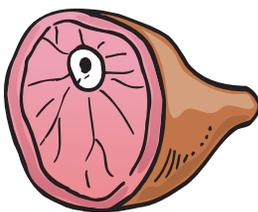
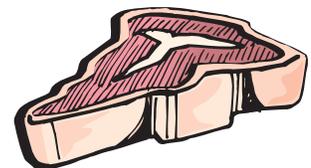
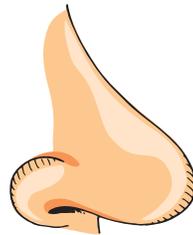




and stir it a lot.



Circle the things that have the sound of **st**.

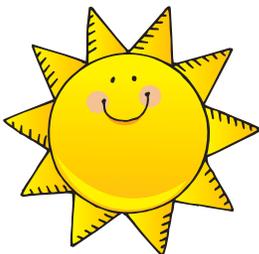
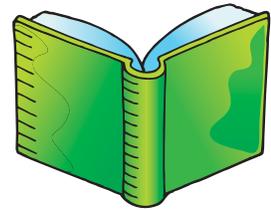
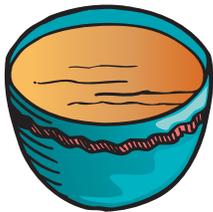




Then we add more stones.



Cross out the things that do **not** have the sound of **st**.



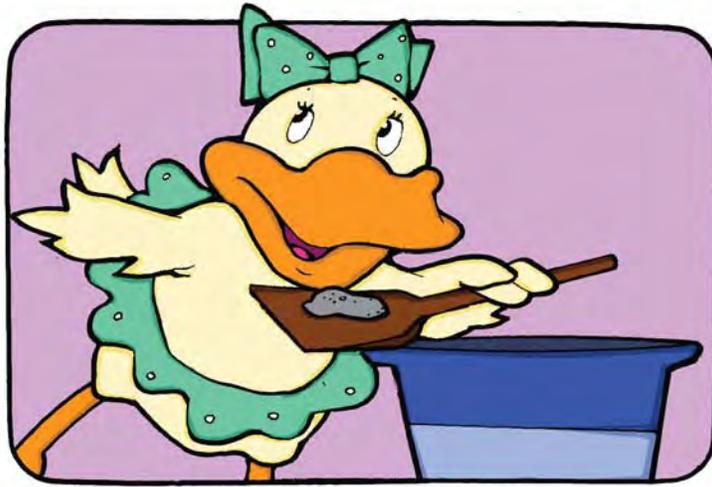


Now it's stone stew!



Draw pictures of 2 things that have the sound of **st**.





M-m-m-m! Yummy, yummy!



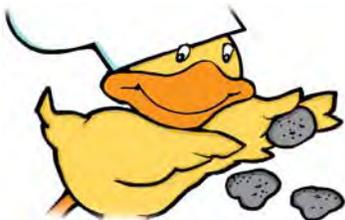
Match each picture to its story word.



• sticks



• stones



• stir



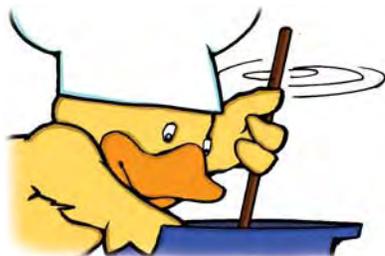
It's stone stew for you!



Write the missing letters.



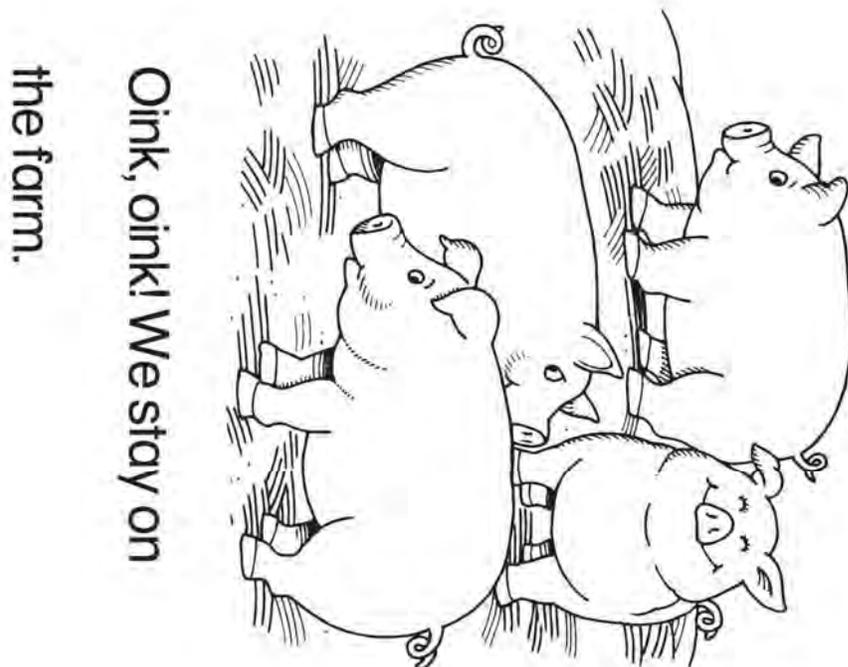
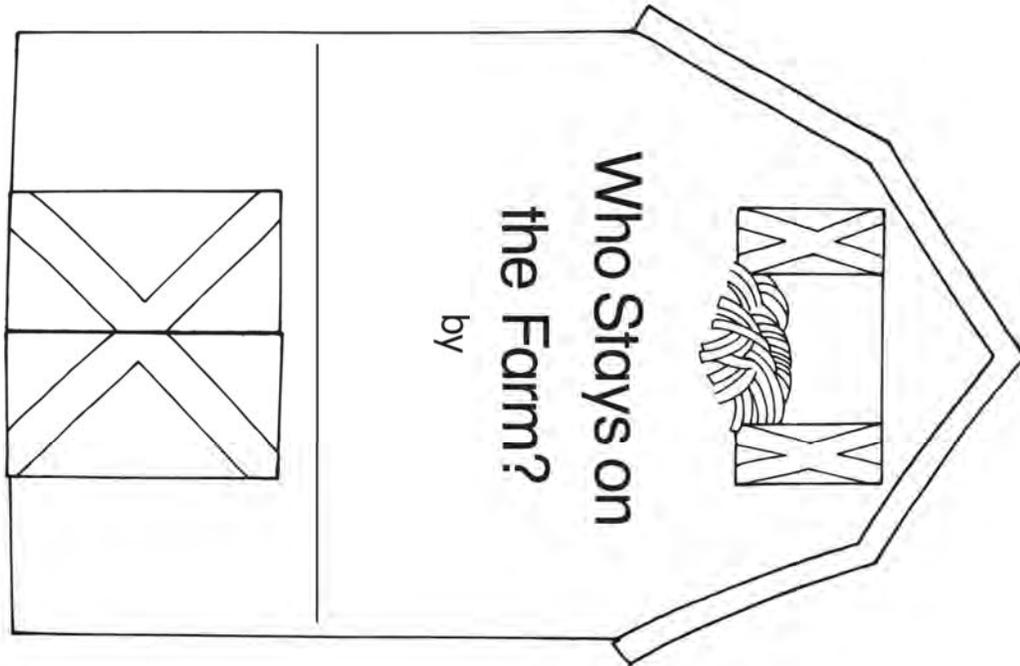
_____ory



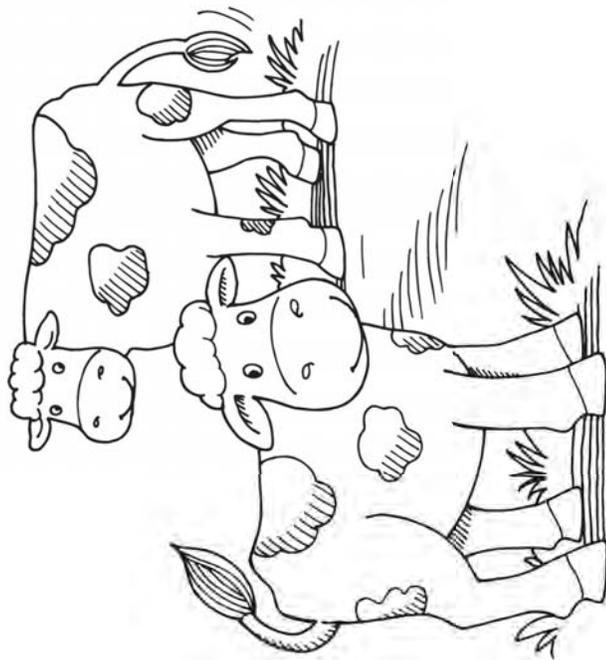
_____ir

"Who Stays on the Farm?" Mini Book

Mini Book Directions: Tear out pages 17–20. Cut the pages apart along the solid lines. Arrange the pages together in order. Staple the pages to make a little book that begins with **Who Stays on the Farm?** Enjoy your book!

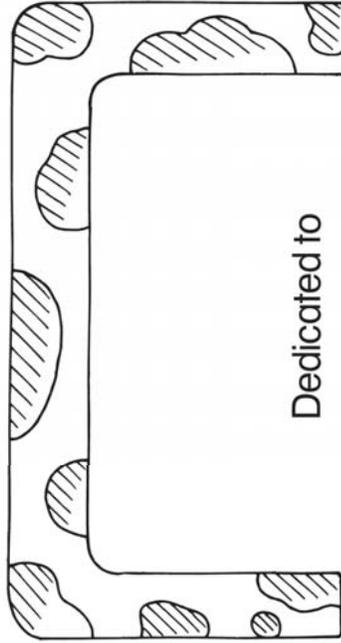


1



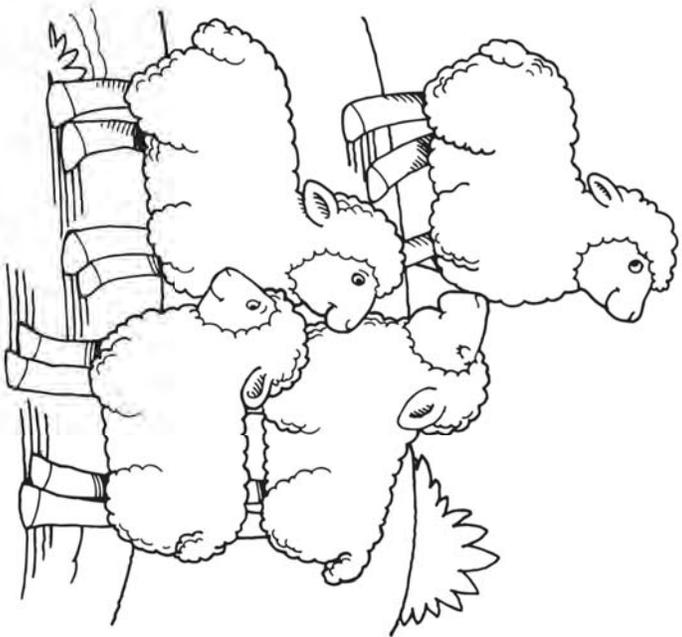
Moo, moo! We stay on
the farm.

2



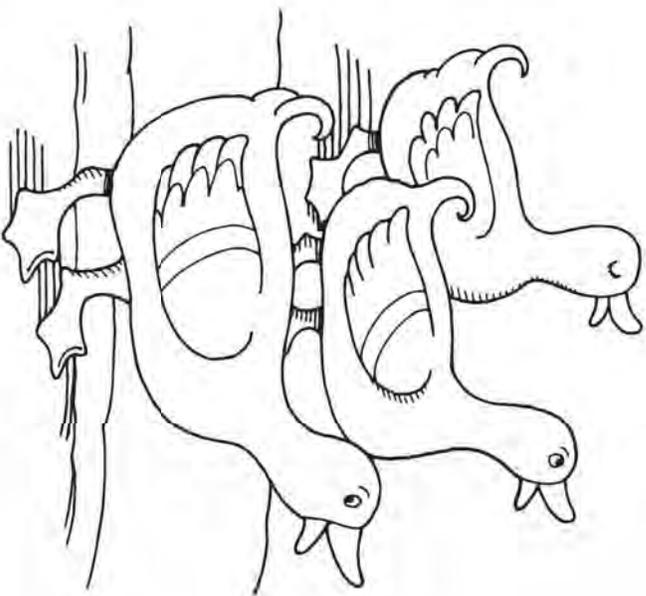
Dedicated to





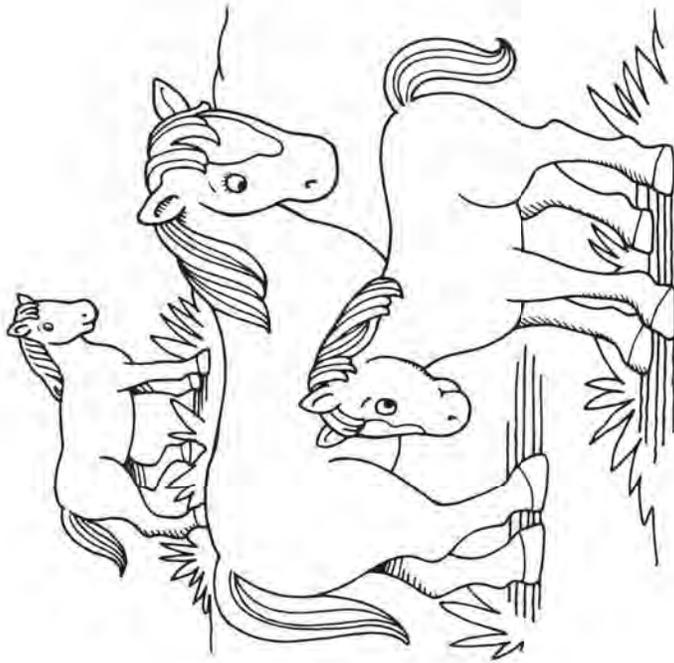
Baa, baa! We stay on
the farm.

5



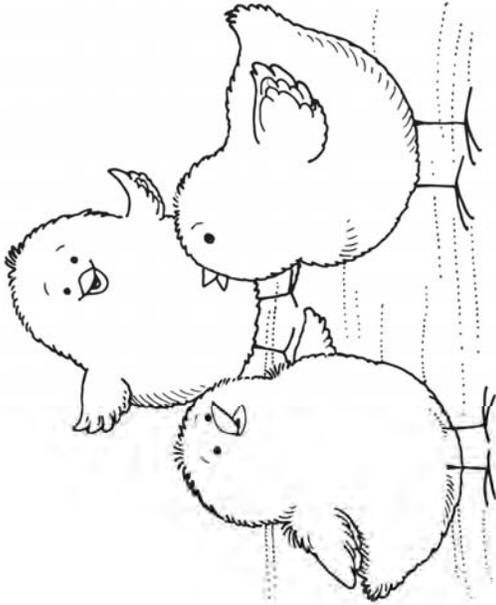
Quack, quack! We stay on
the farm.

3



Neigh, neigh! We stay on
the farm.

4



Peep, peep! We stay on
the farm.

The End

6