

PBS Lesson Series

ELA, Grade 2, Lesson 15

Teacher Packet

Prompt: Retell the fable *Do What You Can* by Carolyn Sherwin Bailey using key details and transition words. Write the lesson learned through the moral of the story. To be an excellent scholar, use some of the vocabulary words that you learned in this lesson.

In the beginning, a farmer harrowed and weeded his field of corn, but the crop withered without rain. The raindrop wanted to help the farmer but was only one little raindrop. Since the raindrop wanted to help in any way it could, the raindrop fell to the field. Next, all of the raindrops came together to form a shower. Finally, the corn was able to grow when all the raindrops came together. The moral of the story is that one person can make a big difference by inspiring others.

character	strength
pig	
sheep	
rabbit	
goose	
rooster	

The Sheep and the Pig

by Carolyn Sherwin Bailey

One morning, bright and early, a sheep and a curly-tailed pig started out through the world to find a home. For the thing they both wanted more than anything was a house of their own.

“We will build us a house,” said the sheep and the curly-tailed pig, “and there we will live together.”

So they traveled a long, long way, over the fields,
and down the lanes, and past the orchards, and
through the woods, until they came, all at once,
upon a rabbit.

“Where are you going?” asked the rabbit of the two.

“We are going to build us a house,” said the sheep and the pig.

“May I live with you?” asked the rabbit.

“What can you do to help?” asked the sheep and the pig.

The rabbit scratched his leg with his left hind foot for a minute, and then he said: “I can gnaw pegs with my sharp teeth; I can put them in with my paws.”

“Good!” said the sheep and the pig; “you may come with us.”

So the three went on a long, long way farther, and they came, all at once, upon a gray goose.

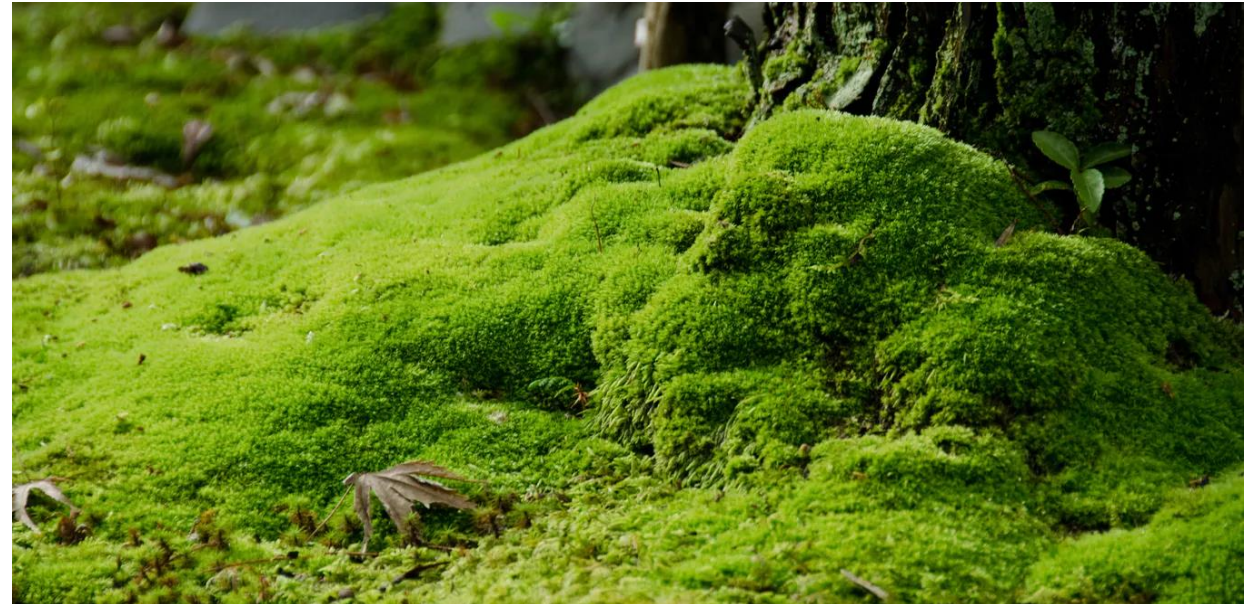
“Where are you going?” asked the gray goose of the three.

“We are going to build us a house,” said the sheep, the pig and the rabbit.

“May I live with you?” asked the gray goose.

The gray goose tucked one leg under her wing for a minute, and then she said: “I can pull moss, and stuff it in the cracks with my broad bill.”

“Good!” said the sheep, the pig and the rabbit;
“you may come with us.”



So the four went on a long, long way, and, all at once, they came upon a barnyard rooster.

“Where are you going?” asked the rooster of the four.

“We are going to build us a house,” said the sheep, the pig, the rabbit and the goose.

“May I live with you?” asked the barnyard rooster.

“What can you do to help?” asked the sheep, the pig, the rabbit and the goose.

The rooster preened his feathers and strutted about for a minute, and then he said: “I can crow very early in the morning; I can awaken you all.”

“Good!” said the sheep, the pig, the rabbit, and the goose; “you may come with us.”

So the five went on a long, long way until they found a good place for a house. Then the sheep hewed logs and drew them; the pig made bricks for the cellar; the rabbit gnawed pegs with his sharp teeth, and hammered them in with his paws; the goose pulled moss, and stuffed it in the cracks with her bill; the rooster crowed early every morning to tell them that it was time to rise, and they all lived happily together in their little house.



Vocabulary

- **orchard**- a farm of fruit or nut trees
- **hind**- back
- **peg**- sticks or twigs
- **moss**- plant that grows in clumps
- **broad**- wide
- **preened**- straighten or clean feathers
- **strutted**- walked proudly
- **hewed**- shape a log by chopping or cutting
- **cellar**- basement

character	strength
pig	Makes bricks for cellar
sheep	Hewed the logs
rabbit	Gnaw or bite sticks and use paws to build
goose	Uses broad bill to pull moss and stuff it in cracks
rooster	Crows in the morning to wake everyone up

How was the community formed? What strength did each character have to contribute to the community?