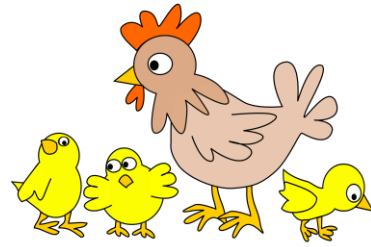


Let's talk about The Little Red Hen

By Byron Barton



The Little Red Hen is a classic fairytale about a hard working hen. She asks her friends to help plant and harvest wheat on her farm, but none of her friends want to volunteer. Hen manages to grow the wheat by herself, and to celebrate she makes fresh bread for her chicks.

While it does not say that the Little Red Hen was disappointed in her friends, it can be understood that she was hoping for some help. By using facial expressions you can make these implied emotions more obvious to your child. One of the principles for reading with your deaf child offered by the Le Clerc Centre's Shared Reading Project is to **"make what is implied explicit."** You will notice on the DVD, how Simone shows the Hen's hopefulness by smiling and opening her eyes wide. As the story goes on though, the Little Red Hen becomes disappointed in her friends' lack of help. This isn't in the story directly, but Simone makes this more obvious by sighing, making smaller movements and frowning. Additionally, you can show the other animals' laziness by expressing an arrogant smirk. These extra movements add interest to the story, and teach your child about the emotions of the character, enabling the story to become more engaging.

Let's Learn about Language

Often storytelling in ASL requires you to think beyond conventional signs. In *The Little Red Hen*, there are many sound-based words that may be difficult to convey in ASL, for example *squealed* in the sentence "'Not I,' *squealed* the pig." You will notice that Simone identifies the animal first then signs what it says, "No". The way the pig says "No" she shows with her facial expression, closing her eyes and turning her head as if to say, "*I don't have time to help you Hen.*" She doesn't actually sign *squealed*. If you wanted to show *squealed*,

here is an example from another ASL storytelling that shows Kathy making the pig's mouth and showing how a squeal might sound with her facial expression.

There are often many ways to express the same concept in ASL just as in English. To sign these sound-based words use your imagination and facial expressions. How could you show *squealed*?



Let's Cook Together

Have you ever made homemade bread? Here is a simple recipe to follow so you and your child can be just like the Little Red Hen!

Easy Bread Rolls

Source: <http://www.herecomethegirlsblog.com/2014/02/17/easy-bread-recipe-kids.html>

Ingredients:

- 500g bread flour
- 1 packet of fast action yeast
- 1 tsp salt
- 1oz butter
- 300 ml of warm water

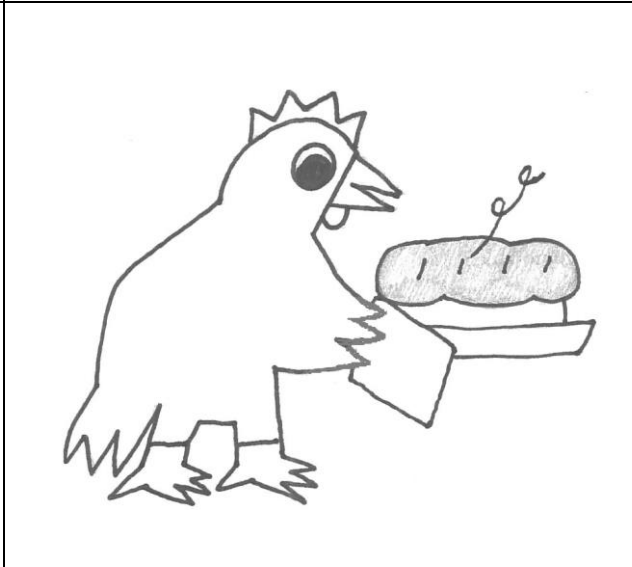
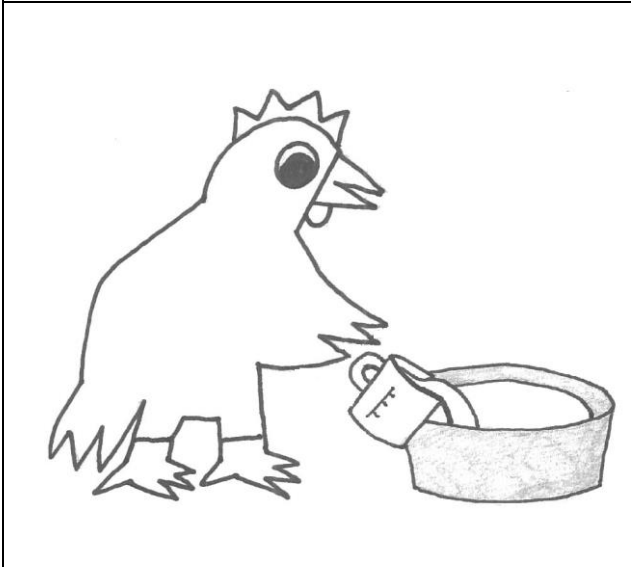
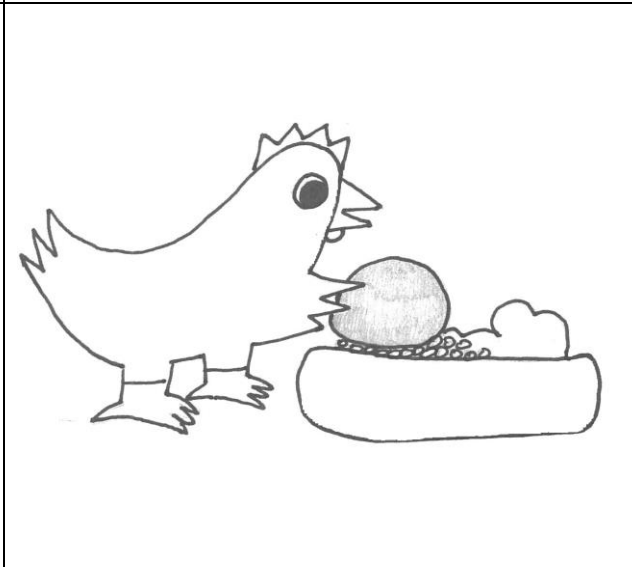
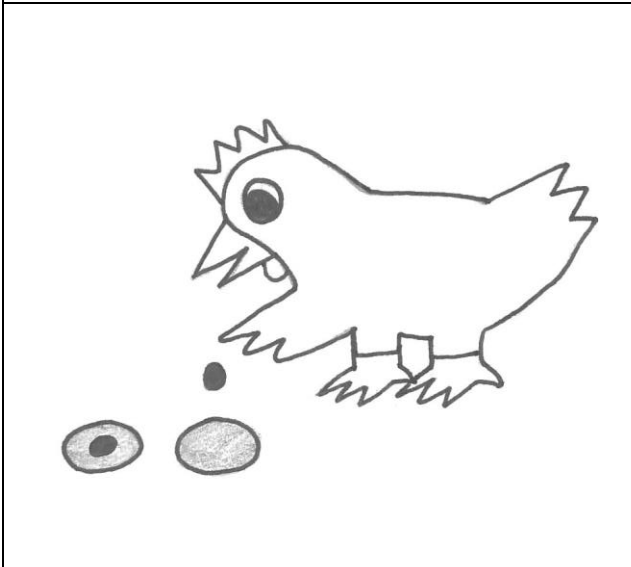
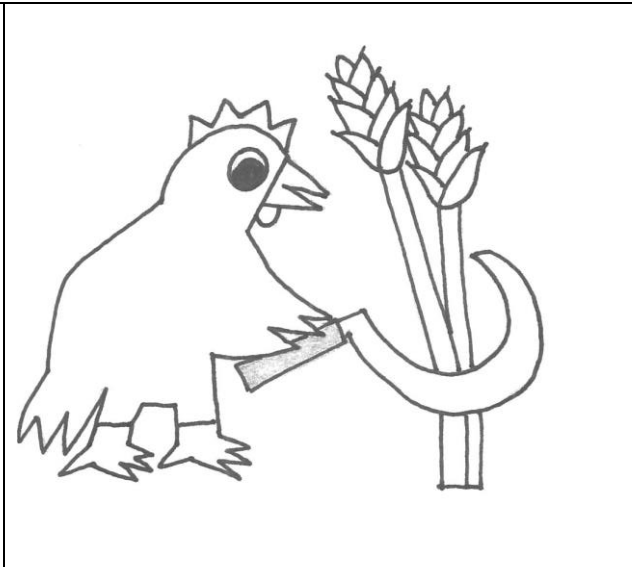
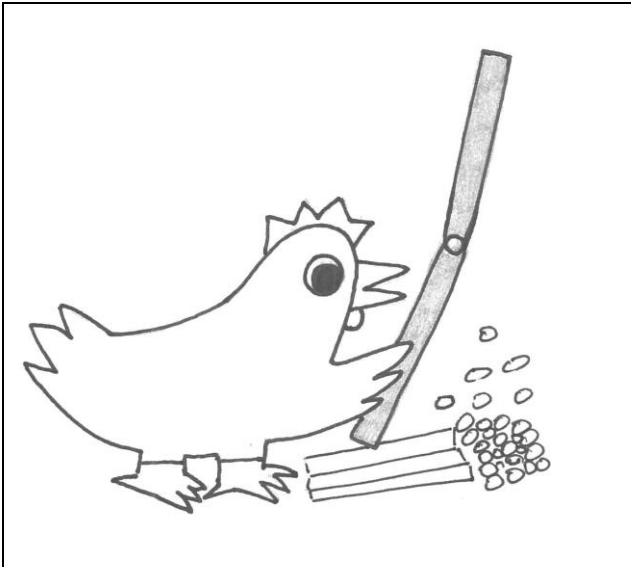


Instructions:

1. Mix the flour, salt and yeast.
2. Add the butter and rub with fingers until it forms breadcrumbs.
3. Gradually add in the warm water and roll into a ball.
4. Knead the dough for 15 minutes. With children take turns.
5. Cover and set aside in a warm place for 1 1/2 hours.
6. Separate into eight parts and roll into roll shapes.
7. Put in a warm place for another hour.
8. Heat the oven to 220C (425F).
9. Bake for 8-10 minutes until golden.

Let's Play Together

The Little Red Hen involves many steps from planting the seeds to harvesting the wheat and finally baking the bread. While you can use sign language to express these actions, you can also explore your child's imagination and work on sequencing at the same time! Below are pictures of these steps. Cut out the pictures. Divide the pictures equally among the people playing. Don't let the other people see your pictures. One by one, describe your picture for the others. Then try to put the pictures in order by recalling what everyone had.



Let's Create

Make a Paper Plate Little Red Hen

Inspired by: gluedtomycraftsblog.com

The Little Red Hen by Byron Barton displays simple colourful art. Recreate these shapes and colours by making your own paper plate hen. First, you will want to colour a paper plate red. You could use paint, markers, crayons or tear and glue red paper to cover the plate. Then, cut out and colour the eyes, beak, chef hat and bow included on the next page. Lastly, glue the shapes on the plate to make a paper plate little red hen!

You can repeat these steps to make all the characters of the story! Attach the paper plates to sticks and you'll have puppets to act out the story.



Here are some signs you might use when making the craft with your child:

Eyes



Nose



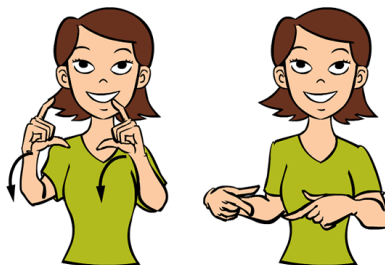
Hat



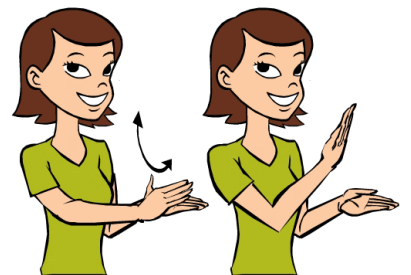
Face (circle your face with index finger)



Plate



Paper



Paper Plate Little Red Hen Craft

