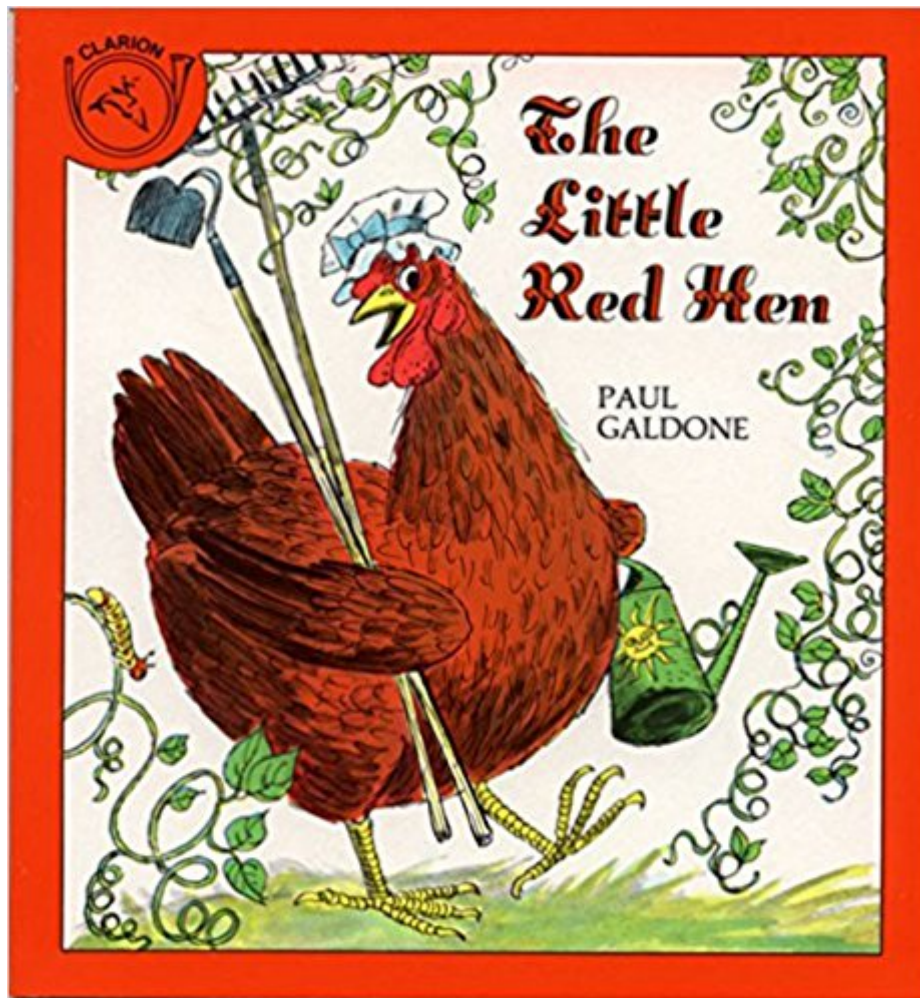




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# The Little Red Hen (Paul Galdone Classics)



## Synopsis

Little Red Hen is a time-tested cautionary tale about how we reap what we sow. When the hen asks a cat, dog, and mouse for help planting some wheat, she gets no takers: "Not I!" said the cat. "Not I!" said the dog. "Not I!" said the mouse. They won't water, cut, or grind the wheat . . . or help bake a cake with it, either. So guess who eats the cake by herself in the end? The Caldecott Honor artist Paul Galdone's delightfully detailed ink and wash illustrations are packed with charming details and add plenty of sly humor to the well-loved story that not only offers a sage message but also shows children what it takes to make a cake from the ground up!

## Book Information

Series: Paul Galdone Classics

Paperback: 48 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (March 18, 1985)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0899193498

ISBN-13: 978-0899193496

Product Dimensions: 7.1 x 0.2 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 107 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #11,080 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #26 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Folklore & Mythology #34 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Farm Animals #43 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Birds

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

"This imaginative rendition will surely help sustain the popularity of this old favorite." School Library Journal, Starred

Paul Galdone was born in Budapest, Hungary in 1907 and emigrated to the United States in 1928. After finishing his studies at the Art Student League and the New York School of Industrial Design, Mr. Galdone worked in the art department of a major publishing house. There he was introduced to the process of bookmaking, an activity that was soon to become his lifelong career. Before his death

in 1986, Mr. Galdone illustrated almost three hundred books, many of which he himself wrote or retold. He is fondly remembered for his contemporary style, bright earthy humor, and action-filled illustrations, which will continue to delight for generations to come.

The Kindle version of *The Little Red Hen* allows me to project the book on my Active Board, which helps bring the characters alive for my students. This is a folk tale classic about an overworked hen and her three lazy friends, who soon learn the value of hard work. I read it every year in the library as a collaboration with the first-grade classroom teachers when they begin teaching story elements to their students. I use this book to teach the first graders to retell *The Little Red Hen* by using the story elements. The characters, setting, problem, events, and solution are easily identified by my students, which helps them retell the story. This book is also excellent for teaching sequence of events and the simple text is designed to support your emergent readers. This version of *The Little Red Hen* is a great addition to any teacher's library.

We actually own three versions of the *Little Red Hen*, and all but this one I find a bit tedious to read in their repetition. Galdone manages to preserve the repetition that kids like so well, without making the story a drudgery to read. Moreover, Galdone's illustrations make this book interesting, and very pleasant to read time and again. The sloth of the dog, cat and mouse are depicted in the most amusing detail, as is every nook and cranny of the house these unlikely four share. The *Little Red Hen* herself wears a persnickety expression throughout many of the illustrations, and I like the way that casts her in a slightly less glowing light. It adds a sort of complexity to the story. The book ends on the note of the dog, cat and mouse doing a great deal more to help out after the experience and leaves you with an image of each of them, looking properly shamed, whilst donning aprons and cleaning the house. If you're looking for the ideal version of this story, Paul Galdone has certainly created it.

I love this rendition of *The Little Red Hen*. It's the story of a hard-working little red hen and her lazy friends who, though unwilling to help plant the wheat, tend it, harvest it, mill it, or bake it into a cake, are VERY willing to help eat the fruit of her labor. Some renditions of this story have the red hen share it with the friends anyway, but this to me undermines the very important message for children that "If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat." (2 Thess. 3:10). And interestingly enough, the friends decide to put forth the effort in the future when they know it's the only way to reap the rewards. The illustrations are quite attractive and very cute: the "hangdog" expressions of the

repentant friends at the end, the dog lounging in the hammock early on, etc. The text is rhythmic and enjoyable to read. "'Not I,' said the dog. 'Not I,' said the cat. 'Not I,' said the mouse." My pre-reading children can repeat this part of the story with me. I highly recommend this book to all who are reading with preschoolers or elementary-aged children. It has good lessons and has also been greatly enjoyed by my children (ages 7 & 5 on down). I've also given it as a gift before, and anticipate doing that again in the future.

Love Paul Galdone's version of this classic children's tale: His images are so unique and striking. Some of the visuals have helped our son learn to read, particularly the "Not I!" sections with their distinct imagery built around the words. This hardbound binding is both lovely and sturdy, good for "read it again" requests. Also, I can't really explain it, but Galdone's description of the cake the hen bakes always makes me hungry, like, "I need to taste that cake it sounds so yummy." Pro-tip: Give each of the animals their own voices. Adds to the fun.

I like Paul Galdone's delightful illustrations and choose the hardcover versions so that these books will last. The Little Red Hen is among the eight or nine books that are included in the "library" I give to newborns. Mr. Galdone has illustrated many of the children's classic stories...and they are available in hard cover and are similar in size, so when presented together, make a nice "set." The parents of the newborns have been pleased with the "library." Incidentally, has a fine selection of Mr. Galdone's books which made it very simple to purchase all seven or eight books in one place. Thank you Paul Galdone for these attractive little books (with fine life's lessons) and also to for making them available and your fine services.

When I would tell this story to my kindergartners I would ask them at the end whether the hen should have shared with the lazy cat, dog, and mouse who refused to help when asked. I thought it was a good lesson in how we all must pull our own weight, but unfortunately most children felt that sharing was more important than being helpful. Anyway, I love the story and always put in a plug for hard work gets the reward. It's a good lesson in consequences. And the illustrations are just right.

my son is absolutely obsessed with this book, he loves it.

A classic.

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