

# CHICKEN, PIG, COW ON THE MOVE

written and illustrated by Ruth Ohi

**Genre:** Picture book, fiction

**Themes:** Early Readers, Adventure, Exploration, Friendship, Teamwork, Animals

**Suitable for:** Grade 1 – 2

## Summary

This picture book explores the friendship between a toy chicken, pig, and cow. The trio go on an adventure to find a new home only to discover that bigger does not mean better.

## ACTIVITY IDEAS

The following activity ideas are only a start. There are many possibilities for helping students construct meaning from text.

Comprehension activities:

- help readers to extend their general knowledge from prior experience
- develop reading strategies for comprehension
- bring relevance to the act of reading
- foster discussion and reflection through response to the text

## BEFORE STARTING THE BOOK

Activities to build the context and introduce the topic of the book, and to establish prior knowledge and interest and develop predictions of what the text will be about.

1. This story is called *Chicken, Pig, Cow On the Move*. What could “On the Move” mean? What could the story be about?
2. Have you ever moved homes before? What did it feel like to move?
3. Why would Chicken, Pig, and Cow want a new home? Why would people want to move homes?
4. Do your toys have a special place to live in your house? Have you ever changed where they live?

## WHILE READING THE BOOK

Activities to check on comprehension, stimulate interest, involve readers in reflection as they read, and encourage consideration of other readers' reactions.

1. Why is Pig's first home "too linty?" Why is Cow's second home "too scary?"
2. Look at the word "too" on the pages that describe the homes that Pig and Cow find. How is this word different from the word "to?" Create a sentence for each word. How do you write the number two as a word?
3. Go to the page where Chicken, Pig, and Cow all say goodnight to each other in their new home. If we changed the word "yelled" to "whispered," how would we read these lines differently?
4. Why can't Cow fall asleep when she finally has space to herself? What do you think she is missing?
5. What does the word "peeked" mean? What is another word you could use to mean the same thing?
6. Why do Chicken, Pig, and Cow finally fall asleep when they are all together in the bathtub?
7. Is the house really "flying" in the story? Why do the animals describe the house as "flying?"
8. Look at the picture on the last page. What adventure is about to happen?

## AFTER READING THE BOOK

Activities to inspire continued reflection and response to the text, bring conclusion to the experience of reading this particular text, and stimulate further extensions.

1. The animals decide that they like their popsicle stick barn better than the new fancy doll house. Has there ever been a time where you liked something that was old and familiar more than something that was new and fancy?
2. Have you ever lived in a space with lots of people? Did it feel cozy or crowded?
3. Do you think the animals will move the house back inside? Why might living inside be better than living outside for clay animals?
4. How do we share space well in the classroom? What can we say or do to let our classmates know that we are being respectful of the space we share?