

He Cried Wolf



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Chapter One



Roberto

Roberto was bored. He sat on a hill, watching sheep. His job was to keep them safe. He counted them: one, two, three....

He got all the way up to 12. All 12 sheep were still happily eating grass. None had wandered into the woods. None had been eaten by a wolf.

His family sold the wool from the sheep. He did not like watching the sheep, but he had to keep them safe.



It was hard to keep his eyes open, so he stood up and wiggled a little to stay awake.

Roberto wanted a snack. Far away, he could see his mom and his big brother, Francisco. They were working in the garden of their house, planting tomatoes and beans.

Roberto waved to them, but they didn't see him. He shouted, "Mom, can you hear me? Francisco, I'm over here!"



They didn't turn around. They were too far away. Roberto gave up and lay down.

He looked at the big shiny bell on the ground. He was only supposed to ring the bell if he needed help right away.

The bell was so shiny. He was so bored and so hungry.





“If I ring the bell, Mom will come,” Roberto thought aloud. “Francisco will come. I can ask Francisco if he will watch the sheep. I can ask Mom if I can go home. But if I ring the bell, I will be in trouble. I should only ring the bell if the sheep are in danger.”

Roberto looked at the sheep. They were happily eating grass.

He picked up the big bell carefully. “If I ring it, I won’t be so bored,” he sighed.

He gave the bell a gentle shake. *Ring*, it whispered. Then, he shook the bell as hard as possible, and it shouted: *RING, RING, RIIING!*

He Cried Wolf

Roberto has to watch his family's sheep, but he finds it boring. He tries to get what he wants by crying wolf. But what happens when there is real danger?

Reading Levels

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