

FARMER DALE'S RED PICKUP TRUCK

Farmer Dale is hauling a load of hay into town when he meets some bossy barnyard animals looking for a ride. The kindly farmer lets them all squeeze in but then his trusty truck breaks down. Everyone will have to pull together to get that old red rig mooooooving again.

Author: Lisa Wheeler

Illustrator: Ivan Bates

Ages: 3 to 7 years

Pages: 40

Themes: The art of giving/sharing; animal and object identification; sense of humor.

What color is the pickup? RED. What color is the cow's apron? GREEN and RED. Let your child identify each animal that gets a ride from Farmer Dale and be sure to talk about how nice it is to help friends. The fuller the pickup gets, the bumpier the ride. The bumpier the ride gets, the funnier the story gets. Be sure to have some with your child as the "plot thickens".

How about finding a cardboard box that can be turned into your child's very own pickup. A paper plate for the steering wheel and a marker or color to draw on wheels and doors and you're all set! If you've got a couple of old keys on a key ring, it only gets better. This make-believe vehicle can give your child hours of fun at little or no cost and the time you spend together manufacturing the pickup is.....priceless!