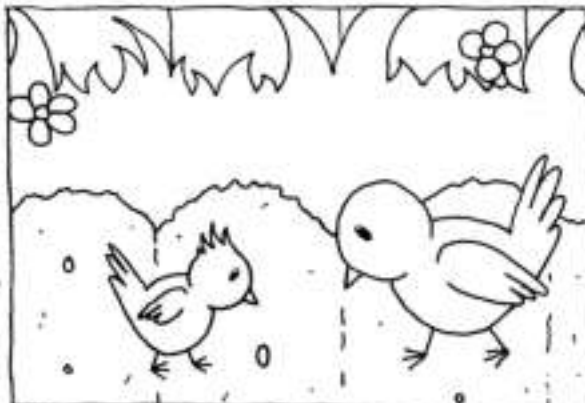
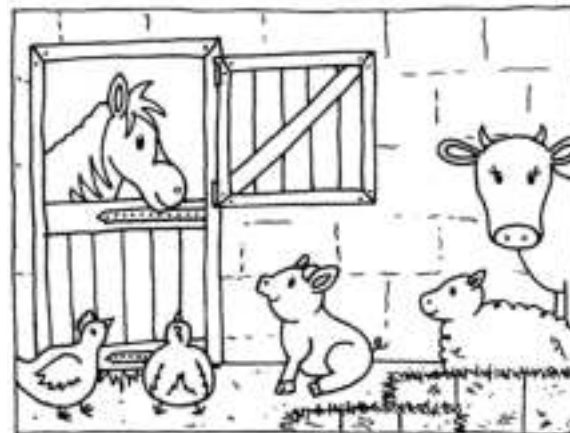


**1** There was once a foolish farmer. Every year he ploughed his fields and planted his crops. But.....



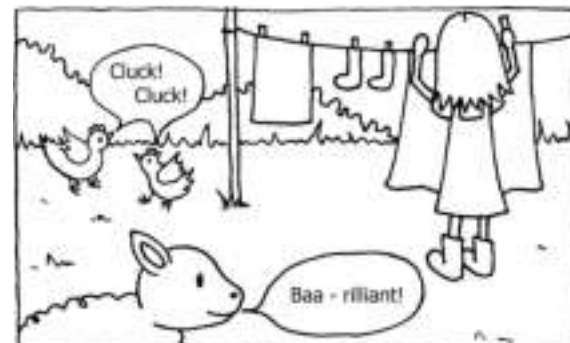
**2** ...the foolish farmer then forgot to put a scarecrow into his fields, and of course, the hungry birds soon swooped down and ate all the seeds. So, every year his crops failed to grow and he had no barley to sell, no straw for the animals beds and no money to spend on the farm. What a foolish farmer!



**3** One day Hercules, the farm horse, called a meeting of the farm animals. "This must stop," he neighed, "We must help the farmer."  
"Yes but how?" oinked Poppy the pig.  
"We could make a scarecrow" moosed Cow.  
"Yes but how?" bleated Sheep.



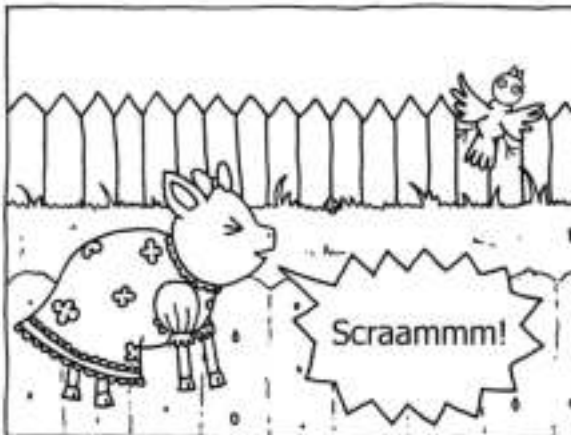
**4** The animals stood together in the farmyard - thinking.



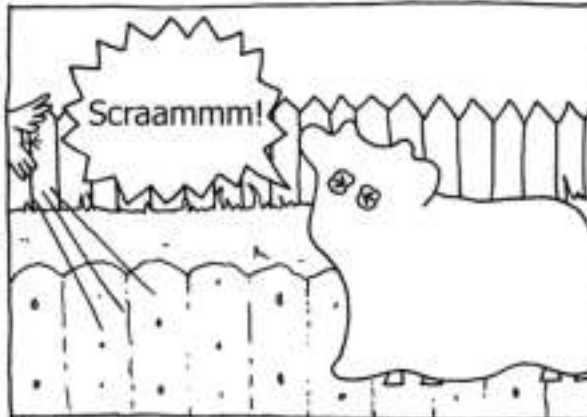
**5** Just then the farmer's wife came out to hang up her washing, and the chickens all clucked together "We could take it in turns to dress up in clothes from the washing line, and pretend to be a scarecrow!"  
"Brilliant" neighed Hercules.  
"Brilliant" oinked Poppy.  
"Baa - rillant" bleated Sheep.  
"Cluck! Cluck!" ducked the chickens, flapping their wings in joy.



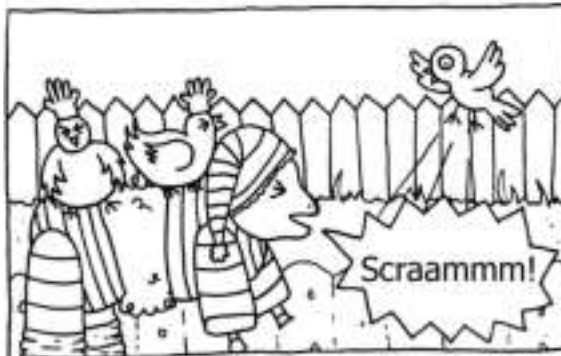
**6** So the first day, Hercules wore a big billowy blue shirt, with red socks on his ears. He stood in the middle of the field and waited till the birds came down. Then....  
"Scaammm!" he neighed, in a horsey sort of way. The birds flew away.



**7** The next day Poppy wore a large red flouncy dress with frills on the hem. "Scraammm!" she cinked in a piggy sort of way. The birds flew away.



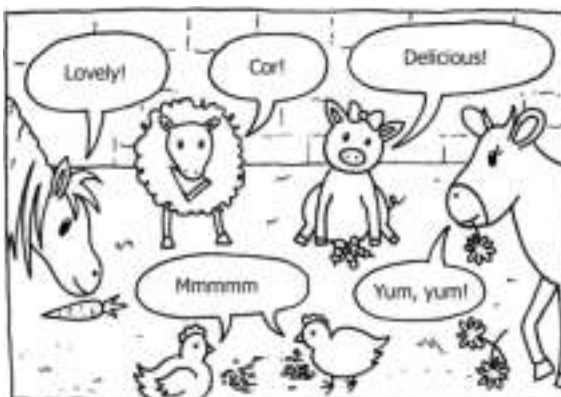
**8** When it was Cow's turn, she wore a big white sheet over her head and down to her hooves, with just two small holes to peep through. "Scraammm!" she mooed in a cow's sort of way. The birds flew away.



**9** Next day, Sheep and the chickens worked together. Sheep wore the farmer's blue and white stripy pyjamas, and the hens, each wearing a bright orange glove on their heads, stood on Sheep's back. "Scraammm!" bleated Sheep in a sheep's kind of way. The birds flew away.... And so did the foolish farmer who was passing by his field!



**10** "Help, help!" screamed the farmer in a foolish sort of way, and ran back to the farmhouse. "There's a monster in the field!" "Don't be foolish" said the farmer's wife in a very sensible sort of way. "Can't you see these animals have done what you should do? Go and make a proper scarecrow while I give them a special treat to thank them."



**11** So Hercules had a juicy carrot. Poppy had crunchy acorns. Cow had yellow dandelions. Sheep had a jam sandwich and the hens had corn.



**12** And the farmer, who was never foolish again, built a very scary scarecrow which said "Scraammm!" in a scarecrow sort of way.