

# Cock-a-doodle-doo! Barnyard Hullabaloo

by Giles Andreae

Children will love to explore the bright and noisy barnyard in this wonderful collection of poems by this award winning author.



## Read

### Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *Who lives on a farm or has ever visited a farm?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder why the animals are happy?

### During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations and ask questions. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

### Rare Words in *Cock-a-doodle-doo! Barnyard Hullabaloo*

- snorting: to make a harsh sound by forcing air through the nostrils
- sties: pigpen
- stomping: walk with heavy steps
- bleating: a wavering cry of a sheep, goat, or calf
- explore: investigate or study something
- rude: discourteous in manner or action
- sheepdog: a dog that is used to herd sheep
- faithful: trustworthy and loyal, especially to a person, promise, or duty
- loyal: remaining faithful to a person
- barnyard: the area around a barn, where small farm animals roam
- plump: rounded and somewhat overweight
- piglets: a newborn pig
- wriggle: twist and turn
- squeal: a short high cry
- clamber: to climb quickly but awkwardly, using hands and feet
- snuffle: to breathe noisily through a partially blocked nose
- dangle: to swing or hang loosely
- wobble: move from side to side
- goslings: a young goose
- fleece: the coat of wool on a sheep
- nostrils: the two openings at the end of the nose of a person or animal
- prey: an animal caught, killed, and eaten by another animal as food

## After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Why were the pigs snorting?
- What noise does the rooster make early in the morning?
- What kind of vehicle can you ride around the farm? Have you ever ridden on a tractor?
- Chickens lay eggs. What do you get from cows?
- What do cows do when they are chewing their food?
- What kind of dog did the farmer have?
- What do barnyard cats like to eat? Have you ever seen a cat catch a mouse?
- What color are pigs? What are their babies called?
- What kind of noise does a turkey make? Have you ever seen a turkey? Wild turkey?
- What kind of animal looks like a cloud?
- What kind of animal has a beard? Do they have long or short hair?
- What part of the horse can shoo away flies?
- What animal snorts steam from its nostrils?
- What animal likes to get in the chicken house?
- What hunts at nighttime and sleeps all day? Is this why they are called night owls?
- Where does the sheepdog sleep at night?



**Do**

## Farm Time

Invite a farmer to talk to the children. If possible, have him bring a small farm animal for the children to touch and observe. Or, plan a visit to a farm and observe the animals and machinery. Have the children dress appropriately as if they were actually going to work on the farm that day. Write a thank-you note as a follow-up activity after the field trip to the farm.