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## A Lesson on The Little Red Hen by Kara Hester

**Grade Level:** Grade 4

**Subject Area:** English Language Arts

**Lesson Length:** 1 hour

**Lesson Keywords:** "The Little Red Hen"

**Lesson Description:** Complete tasks one through three on the "The Little Red Hen".

### Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.1: Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.1b: Provide reasons that are supported by facts and details.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.1d: Provide a concluding statement or section related to the opinion presented.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.3a: Orient the reader by establishing a situation and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.4: Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 4 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

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## Lesson Content: Book/Story/Reading Passage

**Instructions:** Please read the following reading passage as many times as needed (aloud and silent) before starting to go through other lesson pages. Understanding the content of this passage is very important since the lesson activities will be all about this content. Feel free to print the passage if needed.

### The Little Red Hen

by

**Content:** Once upon a time, there was a little Red Hen, who lived on a farm all by herself. An old Fox, crafty and sly, had a den in the rocks, on a hill near her house. Many nights the Fox lay awake and thought how good that little Red Hen would taste. But he could not catch the little Red Hen. She was too wise for him. Every time she went out, she locked the door behind her. When she came in again, she locked the door behind her and put the key in her pocket, where she kept her scissors.

At last, the old Fox thought up a way to catch the little Red Hen. Early in the morning, he said to his old mother, 'I'll be bringing the little Red Hen for supper. Then he took a big bag and walked to the little Red Hen's house. The little Red Hen was just coming out of her door to pick up a few sticks for kindling wood. The old Fox hid behind the woodpile. As soon as she bent down to get a stick, into the house he slipped, and scurried behind the door.

In a minute, the little Red Hen came quickly in, and shut the door and locked it. 'I'm glad I'm safely in,' she said. Just as she said it, she turned round, and there stood the ugly old Fox, with his big bag over his shoulder. How scared the little Red Hen was! She dropped her apron full of sticks and flew up to the big beam across the ceiling. There she perched, and she said to the old Fox, 'down below, You may as well go home, for you can't get me.'

'Can't I, though!' said the Fox. 'So, what do you think he did?' He stood on the floor underneath the little Red Hen and twirled round in a circle after his own tail. And as he spun, and spun, and spun, faster, and faster, and faster, the poor little Red Hen got so dizzy watching him that she couldn't hold on to the perch. She dropped off, and the old Fox picked her up and put her in his bag and started for home.

He had a very long way to go, up hill, and the little Red Hen was still so dizzy that she did not know where she was. When the dizziness began to go off, she whisked her little scissors out of her apron pocket, and snip, snip! She cut a little hole in the bag. Then she poked her head out and saw where she was, and as soon as they came to a good spot, she cut the hole bigger and jumped out herself. There was a great big stone lying there, and the little Red Hen picked it up and put it in the bag as quick as a wink. Then she ran as fast as she could till she came to her own little farmhouse. She went in and locked the door with the big key. She laughed.

The Fox went on carrying the stone and never knew the difference. He was excited when he got home. 'Let's cook the Hen!' he said to his mother. 'When I open the bag, hold the cover off the pot and I'll shake the bag so that the Hen will fall in. Then pop the cover on, before she can jump out.'

The Fox lifted the big, heavy bag up until it was over the open pot, and gave it a shake. 'Splash! Thump! Splash!' In went the stone and out came hot water.

The little Red Hen lived happily ever after, in her own little farmhouse.

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## Task 1: Vocabulary

**Instructions:** Using the provided vocabulary words and phrases from your story, answer the following questions.

**Q: 1 WordPhrase:** crafty **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** Based off the text, what did the author mean when he used the word "crafty" when describing the Fox?

**A:** The Fox was good at art?

**B:** The Fox was creative?

**C:** The Fox was hungry?

**D:** The Fox was friendly?

**Question:** Select the sentence that best defines the word "crafty" as used in the text.

**A:** The Fox was crafty and loved to paint.

**B:** The Fox is creative when problem solving.

**C:** The Fox is crafty when cooking his dinner.

**D:** The Fox is crafty and kind to his neighbors.

**Q: 2 WordPhrase:** kindling **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** "The little Red Hen was just coming out of her door to pick up a few sticks for kindling wood". What does the word "kindling" mean based off the text?

**A:** Small pieces of wood.

**B:** Small pieces of rock.

**C:** A way to cook corn.

**D:** A key.

**Question:** Which one of the sentences below correctly describes the word "kindling"?

**A:** I was collecting kindling for my rock collection.

**B:** I was kindling the corn.

**C:** The kindling I was collecting was made from small oak tree sticks.

**D:** I put the kindling that unlocks my door into my pocket.

**Q: 3 WordPhrase:** "as quick as a wink" **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** Based off the text, select the best meaning of the phrase "as quick as a wink".

**A:** Slow as a turtle.

**B:** Able to quickly wink.

**C:** Able to move fast.

**D:** Able to move very fast.

**Question:** Choose one of the sentences below that uses the phrase "as quick as a wink" correctly.

**A:** The cheetah, the quickest animal on the planet, can run as quick as a wink when he is hunting.

**B:** When I look at the sun, the bright light makes my eyes blink as quick as a wink.

**C:** The house cat was as quick as a wink when he was relaxing in the sun.

**D:** The turtle is as quick as a wink when he plays with his frog friend.

**Q: 4 WordPhrase:** scurried **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** What does the word "scurried" mean in the sentence, "As soon as she bent down to get a stick, into the house he slipped, and scurried behind the door".

**A:** To crawl

**B:** To sing

**C:** To quickly move

**D:** To freeze

**Question:** Choose one of the sentences below that best describes the meaning of the word "scurried".

**A:** The mouse scurried across the floor to escape from the cat.

**B:** The baby scurried when he was taking a bath.

**C:** The green beans scurried onto my plate.

**D:** I scurried my dog because he was hungry.

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## Task 2: Forum Discussion

**Instructions:** This discussion forum will have questions for you to answer. Read the posted questions, and respond to each. Students must post a response to two other classmates. You must state if you agree or disagree with their response to the question.

### 1 - What lesson did the Fox learn?

Based off the text, what lesson did the Fox learn? Use details from the text to support your answer.

### 2 - Where was the Red Hen?

Where was the Red Hen when she said to the Fox, You may as well go home, for you can't get me? Why did the Red Hen say that to the Fox?

### 3 - What do you think the author meant when he wrote, "She was too wise for him"?

What do you think the author meant when he wrote She was too wise for him? Give one example from the story that supports your answer.

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Task 3: Writing Activity

**Instructions:** You are to write and post here a 500 word alternate ending to the The Little Red Hen. Use two vocabulary words from task 1 in your writing.

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