

中年級：

A Lazy Farmer

A lazy farmer liked to eat but hated to work. He daydreamed all day long about becoming a rich man. One day, he found a lot of ripe corn in a cornfield nearby. He sneaked into the field and picked a whole bag of corn. He thought happily, “If I sell the corn in the market, I will earn a lot of money.” “And then, I can buy chickens.” “When the chickens grow up, I can sell them and buy sheep.” “The sheep will have lambs.” “After the lambs grow up, I will sell them and earn a bunch of money.” “Until that time, I will be able to buy a land to plant fruit trees.” “I’ll hire workers to water, weed and take care of the trees.”

The more the farmer daydreamed, the more he was pleased. Finally, he forgot he was stealing corn and laughed loudly. His sounds of laughter were so loud that the owner heard them. The owner yelled right away, “Thief! Catch the thief.” “How dare you not work and just steal from others!” Many friends of the owner came to run after the thief and shouted. The lazy farmer was frightened and ran away. The whole bag of picked corn was left behind. He did not carry away any corn.

From that time on, the lazy farmer dared not come closer to the cornfield any more. He started to work hard and became a hard-working farmer.