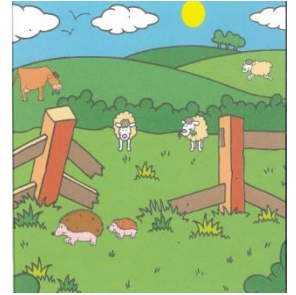


Day 3 Sheet 9

Read or listen to 'A Fishy Tale at Sunnybank farm and answer questions based on the story on sheet 10.

Farmer Dan and his big brother Stan were always busy at Sunnybank Farm, repairing and replacing fences to keep their animals safe, especially near any busy roads. Today they were working along part of the Garthdale Road, near Sunnybank River. Dan and Stan decided to share the work between them.



Stan, with his big new shiny tractor, was the first to arrive at the old fence section. Using the big bucket on the front of his tractor, he lifted the broken fence posts out of the ground. Dan collected the old broken fence when he brought the new posts with Major, his tractor. By eleven o'clock they were ready for their morning tea.

So they went back to Sunnybank Farm where Mother Button had their tea and biscuits waiting on the table as they walked in. They didn't even have time to wash their hands before they heard a terrible noise—someone shouting and yelling, dogs barking and a car horn tooting. "Whatever is going on?" said Mother Button, jumping up with a start.

Stan rushed over to the window. "Can't see anything. But there seems to be some kind of problem in the river meadow, that's where we have been working this morning. Come on, Dan. We need to get down there right away. Someone's making a terrible din." Stan went speeding off down the lane to the main Garthdale Road.

Dan went across the fields on Major, his tractor. They both arrived about the same time at the scene of all the noise, which was in fact caused by the old colonel, Charles Bonnet-Smythe in his little car. His two dogs were standing on one of the seats. He was standing on the other and he had the roof of the little car pulled right back. Both dogs were barking. The old colonel was shouting for help and stamping on the little car's horn. All this noise and the car in the middle of the river...

Farmer Dan carefully and very calmly viewed the whole situation. "Right Stan," he shouted above the noise of Major's big engine. "I'm going to drive down the bank and into the river."

That little car is beginning to move with the amount of water pounding against it. "Dan could see that if the little car wasn't held securely, then the old colonel would be in big trouble. Farmer Dan drove his tractor, Major, right into the middle of the swift flowing river. He stopped alongside the little car, which was now moving with the current.

The little car slammed against the big black wheel of the tractor, but Major stayed still. Dan shouted to the old colonel "Don't worry, Colonel. Major can hold the car against the force of the river while Stan gets you out."



Dan calmed the dogs down and coaxed and encouraged them to jump to the safety of Major's bonnet. Stan, who is very strong, then waded into the river and carefully carried the old colonel back to the safety of the grassy bank. Colonel Bonnet-Smythe seemed to be none the worse for his ordeal. "Goodness me!" said Stan.

"What have you been doing, Colonel, parking your little car in the middle of the river?"

Dan kept patting and talking to the colonel's two dogs to keep them calm, as the old gentleman explained what had happened,

"I'd been fishing earlier my neck and back are stiff after using my big new fishing rod. I thought exercise would do me good, so I decided to take the dogs for a walk. When we were ready for going home I tried to turn the car round. I drove gently backwards waiting for the bumper of the car to touch the fence. That's when the problem started. There were no fence posts to stop me. Someone must have stolen them! Fancy stealing fence posts, scoundrels."

Dan and Stan laughed. "No colonel, not stolen just removed before we put the new ones in," said Dan.

"Well," said the colonel, patting his dogs, "I just kept going back and back, right down the bank and landed with a splash in the river. Good job you chaps heard us, or we might have been here all day."

Dan and Stan explained that they had taken the old fence down to replace it with a new one, as the sheep had been getting out of the field. "Though," said Dan, "I think we forget that for now. First, we have to get your little car out of the river."

Stan again waded out to the colonel's little car. He fastened one end of a rope on to it very tightly. He fastened the other end onto the back of Dan's tractor, Major. Then Major's engine growled and growled, and with a huge roar started pulling. The tractor pulled and pulled until the little car came out of the river. Major dragged the car right up the bank, water pouring out of it. Then Dan laughed he opened the boot.

"Well, I think you should throw away your fishing rod, Colonel. This little car is much better at fishing than you. There are three lovely fat fish in the boot right now."

They all laughed, and thanks to the colonel, everyone had a wonderful fish and chip supper that night at Sunnybank Farm, after they had mended the fence.



Sheet 10

Answer the questions based on the story 'A Fishy Tale at Sunnybank Farm' Try to answer the questions in full sentences not just with one-word answers e.g. fence. The fence was broken on Sunnybank farm.

1. Where do Farmer Dan and Famer Stan live?

2. What was the terrible noise that Farmer Dan and Stan heard?

3. Where was the colonel stuck? Tick one

In the middle of the river

In the middle of a field

On the farm

In Puddly Wood

4. What did the colonel think had happened to the fence posts?

5. What was in the Colonels boot?
