

Moo Attitude

Boys and girls, I want to tell you a story about my favorite sound I like to make and that is Moo. Do you have a favorite sound like you like to make? Sometimes I have heard children make sounds like a bee humming hmmmmmmm, or maybe a bird chirping --- chirp, chirp, chirp, or like the sound of a steam engine letting off steam shhhhhhhhh. Well my favorite sound is mooooooo.

When I was just a little baby my mother used to tell me stories. I am going to tell you one of my favorites.

It was about a shy cow that was called "No Swatter,". NO Swatter got her name because she had a very very short tail. Since she had a short tail she couldn't swat the flies away. She didn't have a tail swatter like the other cows, so that's how No Swatter got her name. Most of the animals just simply called her Swatter instead of No Swatter. Some of the animals in the barnyard felt sorry for Swatter while others would laugh at her short tail.

When the flies would land on her back, she would find a tree to rub against to chase the flies away. The other animals in the barn yard would laugh at Swatter as she tried to get the flies off her back. Flies love landing on cows back and bite and bite and bite. I bet you have been bitten by a fly? It hurts doesn't it?

Swatter loved playing out in the field with the other animals but sometimes the others would sneak away and not tell Swatter where they were going and Swatter would be left back at the barnyard all by herself. It made her sad that the other animals didn't include her. Swatter had one real nice friend by name of Jessica and when Jessica was out playing with the other animals, she always invited Swatter to go along-- which was a very kind thing to do and made Swatter feel real happy inside. Isn't it nice when your friends ask you to play.? It makes me feel good and I know it makes you feel good also.

Well, this day I am going to tell you about, Swatter was back in the barnyard resting in a haystack just enjoying the nice warm sun. It was hard to see Swatter for when she laid down on the haystack, the hay came tumbling in around her. She liked it when that happened for then the flies couldn't bite her back.

Just she was about to fall asleep, she heard a lot of noise coming from the chicken house. It sounded like all the chickens were yelling help, help, help. Swatter stretched his neck to see what the problem was. There was a big coyote in the chicken house! Coyotes love eating chickens. The coyote was trying to grab one chicken then another. The chickens were jumping and flying so the coyote couldn't grab them. Back and forth the coyote ran. Going after one chicken and then another. Help, help, help they cackled.

Swatter thought, I need to do something, then she remembered she had been warned many times how Coyotes like to also eat cows. Swatter didn't know what to do. Where she was in the haystack, the coyote couldn't see her. Swatter thought I have to do something. Swatter had an idea. Swatter took a big deep breath, opened her mouth wider and wider and wider. It was open so wide that if you had been there, you might have thought you could look right into Swatter's stomach. With one big gust of breath, Swatter let out a mighty Moo sound from deep in her throat. The big loud deep Moo scared the

Swatter, jumped up from the haystack, ran over to the chicken house. " Did you hear that loud low sound" one of the chickens asked. It sounded like moo to me, but I never heard Moo like that before. Swatter smiled it was Me. I made a big deep moo. The chickens all cheered! your Moo saved our lives -- thank you!

Ever since that day, when a moo sound was heard around the barnyard, it reminded the animals how Swatter had saved the chickens. It was a reminder for everyone of the importance to do kind things to help each other.

My mother often said to me, "Moozie, When you grow up, I want you to teach children about the Moo Attitude. The Moo Attitude is a reminder to help each other, to think kind thoughts about others, to do kind things for the earth, to do kind things for other animals, and also to be kind to ourselves."

Boys and girls, I like the Moo attitude. It makes me happy when children are kind to each other. When you see someone throwing a piece of paper on the ground, you can go Moo, which will be a reminder to them, to pick up their litter. Or when the teacher sees one person making fun of another, or pushing another around, by the teacher going Moo, it would be a reminder to show kindness. If everyone had the Moo attitude, it would make me very very happy.