

**Bob**  
**by**

**Tracy Campbell Pearson**

**Summary**

Bob, the rooster, is searching for someone to teach him how to crow. In learning other animal sounds in addition to crowing, he is able to help save the day.

**Ideas for Family & Classroom use**

**Discussion questions** - encourage children to find examples from the story to document their answers.

*Does a rooster learn how to crow from another rooster, or do you think it's a natural instinct – roosters are born knowing how to crow?*

*Could a rooster really learn to make the sounds of a dog, a cat, a frog or a cow?*

*How did Bob's barnyard talents help him save the other animals on the farm?*

*What other animals sounds could Bob learn on a farm?*

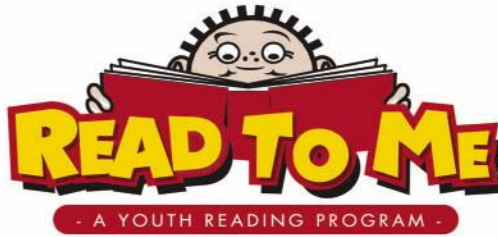
**Responding to the Story**

**Barnyard Animal Sounds**

Teach your children the highly entertaining Red Grammar song, “Barnyard Boogie,” from his “Hooray for the World” DVD. Red Grammar shares the song at the following sites:

[http://www.redgrammer.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=8V9](http://www.redgrammer.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=8V9)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kNOyH5clHrw>



You can find a copy of the lyrics for this song at this site sharing A Teacher's Resource Guide for Red Grammar (page 14):

<http://www.cpa.psu.edu/publications/sg-red.pdf>

## **Art**

### ***Make your own colorful roosters***

Bob is certainly a colorful character, inside and out! Invite children to design their own rooster by enlarging the blank template at the site below. Perhaps children could paint or use pastels to create them. If used in a classroom, a barnyard mural could be created for these one-of-a-kind roosters to be displayed for all to enjoy. At home, perhaps you could create a mini-mural for a children's bedroom or play area.

<http://www.apples4theteacher.com/coloring-pages/chinese-new-year/rooster.html>

## **Writing**

### ***Thank you notes***

Fred the rooster is the one in the book, Bob, who taught Bob how to crow. Who taught you how to ride a bike, to read your first book, or some other skill? Was it a parent or grandparent, a classroom or specialized teacher? Often we forget to thank those in our lives that really help us. Write a thank you note to someone in your life that taught you something that you really needed help with. Be sure to share specifically how you were helped by the person and how grateful you are.

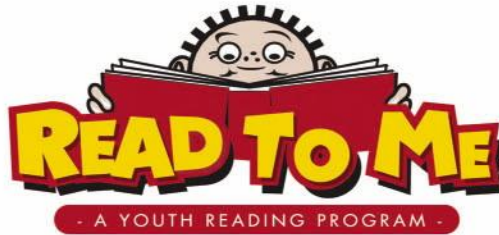
To make the card extra special, you might include a sketch or draw a picture of you and the special person working together.

### ***Designing mini- posters for Roosters of Wonder!***

After creating the original roosters above (under Art,) encourage children to choose a special talent their rooster has learned, such as learning how to hop and/or ribbit like a frog. Invite them to design a mini-poster that can be posted next to the rooster when on display! Refer to some illustrations of Circus posters sharing rare and wondrous talents that people or animals have at the circus. You can find a few circus posters at the website below:

[http://libweb5.princeton.edu/visual\\_materials/Circus/TC093.html](http://libweb5.princeton.edu/visual_materials/Circus/TC093.html)

At least one unusual circus animal poster can be found at the site - #C-107.



## **A Game of Talents**

### ***Sharing one-of-a-kind talents***

What is a special talent you have or would like to have? Can you make 5 baskets in a row in basketball? Are you gifted as an artist or hope to be? Are you amazing at doing your hair or riding your bike?

- Choose a talent.
- Invite people (your classmates, friends or family) to guess what one of your special talents is, or what you'd like to be good at.
- People can begin with "I think a special talent you have (or would like to have) is..."
- The group gets to make 5 guesses.
- Your answers might be, "yes, that's the talent I was thinking of," or "No, but that's a talent I do have or might be interested in developing – good guess!"
- Keep score. When the whole group guesses correctly, they get one point. If they don't guess a person's special talent, no score is added. How well do you know the special talents of your family and friends? The higher the group score, the more they recognize and appreciate your talents!

♥*Created by Val Hornburg, Portland, OR, 2009*