

Stay-At-Home Cow

By: Chantele Langley

“I just put in about nine hours at the design firm today,” Molly Sheep told the gals before she sipped her coffee.

“Oh nice,” Mrs. Duck said. “My job has been hard, too. The Floffertown Hospital has been swamped with flu patients.

“Yeah, I am now working two jobs,” Cindy Chicken bawked. “In addition to the egg business, I have a day care for mothers that have to work away from the farm.”

Mama Cow started to feel like she wanted to hide under the table. She didn't have even one job. She wondered if the other ladies would think bad things about her since she was just a mother. She liked it, though. Just that morning she got excited about finding out you could use lemon oil to polish wood. Her house smelled so clean. It also made her smile so big when she got compliments from her family on her grass and wheat omelet. Moopers, her son, told her it was what helped him get through his day and Bertha, her daughter, kissed her on the cheek and told her she was the best cook on the farm.

“What about you?” Molly Sheep turned towards her.

“Well...” Mama Cow started. “Oh no! Is that a fly in my tea?” She tried to distract them with a little white lie. “I will be right back ladies. Let me take this to the counter and get a new drink.”

“Sure thing.” Cindy Chicken said and started telling the ladies about a new headache medicine her husband gave her.

Mama Cow walked back up to the counter and ordered a different type of tea from a young girl goat.

“Aren't you Bertha's mom?” she asked.

“Yes, I am.”

“She tells us all the time what a great mom you are. She also let me try your yummy sugar cookies. She's a lucky calf. My mom travels a lot for work so we don't get to spend much time together.”

“Well you're welcome to come over any time, sweetie.” Mama Cow took her tea back to the table. She didn't feel embarrassed anymore and told the ladies since she didn't work she had time to make them dinner on Saturday.

They were all grateful for the invite and when Saturday came, they had a lovely time. They said many nice things about her house and food and Mama Cow went to bed thinking that being a house-mom was the best job of all.



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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. How many animals were at the table at the coffee shop?
 - A. 2
 - B. 3
 - C. 4
 - D. 5
2. Who worked at the Floffertown Hospital?
 - A. Mrs. Duck
 - B. Cindy Chicken
 - C. The Young Goat
 - D. Mama Cow
3. What breakfast did Mama Cow make for her children that morning?
 - A. Bacon and Eggs
 - B. Sugar Cookies
 - C. Hot Tea
 - D. Grass and wheat omelet
4. Why did Mama Cow feel bad about herself?
 - A. She had tea not coffee
 - B. She was a house-mom and didn't have a job
 - C. She was a bad cook
 - D. Her children behaved badly
5. Mama Cow felt even worse about herself at the end of the story.
 - A. True
 - B. False

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ANSWER KEY

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

- How many animals were at the table at the coffee shop?
 - 2
 - 3
 - 4 (Molly Sheep, Mrs. Duck, Cindy Chicken, Mama Cow)**
 - 5
- Who worked at the Floffertown Hospital?
 - Mrs. Duck**
 - Cindy Chicken
 - The Young Goat
 - Mama Cow
- What breakfast did Mama Cow make for her children that morning?
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- Mama Cow felt even worse about herself at the end of the story.
 - True
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