

## Questioning Interactive: Stories

### *The Silver Hearth*

Door 1

Title and illustration

Door 2

Once upon a time, there was a poor farmer and his wife. The farmer worked in his fields all day, but he earned only enough money for a simple life. He did not complain about his life, but he did dream of a day when he might be rich.

Door 3

While plowing the field one day, the farmer discovered an ancient jar buried in the ground. Inside were hundreds of silver coins! But the farmer was worried. How could he know if these coins were meant for him? He decided to leave the jar in the ground.

Door 4

That evening, he told his wife about the jar of silver coins. "You fool!" she said. She stormed out of the house and went to a neighbor. "My husband is foolish. He found a jar of silver coins in his field today, but he refuses to bring them home. Will you go find the jar and share the coins with me?"

Door 5

So the neighbor searched the fields and found the jar. But it did not contain silver coins. Instead, it was full of poisonous snakes! The neighbor was very angry at the farmer's wife. "She must be my enemy!" he thought. "She hoped I would put my hand into the jar to be bitten and poisoned by these snakes!"

Door 6

The neighbor decided to get revenge on the farmer's wife. He carried the jar back and poured the snakes down the chimney of their house.

The next morning, the farmer awoke at his usual time. As the morning sun shone on his hearth, he stared in disbelief. Silver coins filled the hearth. "These silver coins have appeared in my own house!" the farmer cried. "They must be meant for me!" He now knew that he could keep the coins and live his dreams of becoming rich.

## Questioning Interactive: Stories

### *Four Friends*

Door 1

Title and illustration

Door 2

Once upon a time lived four friends in a forest. These four friends should have been enemies, for they were a mouse, a crow, a deer and a tortoise. But they overcame their differences and always helped each other out. That was especially true one day when a hunter came into their woods.

Door 3

One day, the mouse, crow and deer were sitting under an old oak tree. Their friendly chat was interrupted by a terrible scream. It was their friend, the tortoise! The hunter had trapped him in a net.

"Oh dear!" said the deer. "What can we do to help him?"

Door 4

"I have a plan," said the mouse. The deer and the crow leaned in to listen to the mouse's plan. They had no time to lose!

The hunter had already gathered up the tortoise in the net, so they had to act fast. The deer ran ahead of the hunter and lay down, pretending to be dead. The crow landed on the deer and began pecking away, as if eating the dead body.

Door 5

The hunter noticed the deer lying on the ground. "Why, here is a deer ready for the taking." He put down the net and crouched next to the deer. The crow blocked him, flapping its wings in the hunter's face. Meanwhile, the mouse started chewing through the threads of the net holding the tortoise.

Door 6

As soon as the tortoise was free, the deer leaped to its feet and ran away. The hunter stood up, shocked. He was shocked again when he saw that the tortoise had escaped. "If only I hadn't been so greedy," he sighed.

The four friends met up under the tree, safe and sound. They laughed and laughed at their trick on the hunter. Helping each other in such a clever way made their friendship stronger than ever.

## Questioning Interactive: Stories

### *Two Brothers*

Door 1

Title and Illustration

Door 2

Once upon a time lived two brothers. After their father died, they divided his land equally and made their homes. As the years passed, the older brother got married and had six children. The younger brother remained single but became quite wealthy.

Door 3

Lying in bed one night, the younger brother thought, "My brother has so many children to feed, but he has just the same amount of land as I do. I should share my grain with him."

So he went to his silo, filled a large bushel with grain, and carried it over to his brother's farm. He poured the grain into his brother's silo.

Door 4

That very same night, the older brother lay in bed thinking, "What will my brother do in his old age, without children to care for him? I should share my grain so he can save money for his old age."

And he went to his silo, filled a large bushel with grain, and carried it over to his brother's farm. He poured the grain into his brother's silo.

Door 5

The next morning, each brother was puzzled to see that his silo had as much grain as the day before. Each one thought, "I must share more of my grain with my brother." And so that night, each brother filled a bushel with grain and carried it over to his brother's silo.

Door 6

This went on for three nights. Then, on the night of the full moon, each one was halfway across the field when he saw someone in the moonlight. They approached cautiously. But as soon as they recognized each other, they realized what was happening. They had been trading grain every night! They dropped their bushels and embraced, full of love for each other.