

Nana's Silly Goats Readers' Theater Script

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Actors: Re-read the story to decide how to act out your part. Be sure to read your part fluently and with good expression.

Narrator

Nana

Fanny

Heidi

Peter

Sammy

Mr. Cooper

Eagle

Connie

Debbie

(Optional: Peter Rabbit and Mr. McGregor)

Set and Costume Designers: Re-read the story to decide what sets and costumes are needed. Use your imagination to create goats, eagles, and setting props! A simple head band with goat ears and horns might be fun. Or goat characters can dress in all brown (Peter), all white (Fanny and Sammy), or brown and white (Heidi). Puppets can also be a fun way to act out a play. Ask your art teacher and classroom teacher for help and ideas, too.

Narrator: Chapter 1: A New Home

Nana had been a teacher and principal. She was used to dozens and dozens of kids. But now she was retired and lived quietly on her mountain with our grandpa.

Nana: I miss my kids. We have lots of land to roam, lots of weeds to eat, and a nice warm barn. Let's get some goat kids.

Narrator: Grandpa and Nana bumped along the gravel roads in their big red truck. They were going to a goat ranch.

Nana: Listen. I hear our little ones calling to us.

Narrator: As Grandpa and Nana got out of their truck, tiny Heidi let out a long, loud bleat. Sammy and Fanny, the other two snow white kids, tilted their heads and butted against Nana's hands. Peter, a brown goat, stood on his back legs and put his hooves on Nana.

Fanny: Who are you?

Heidi: What do you want?

Peter: I like you! Can we go home with you?

Sammy: Will I like a different ranch? Will it be fun there?

Narrator: Into the back of the truck they jumped.

Heidi: *Blee-eea -t!* Let's go! Let's go!

Narrator: And off they went – around the curves, up and down the hills they traveled until they reached Grandpa and Nana's ranch.

First the kids explored their new barn stalls. Fresh wood shavings covered the floor. Sweet smelling hay filled the manger. Clear cold water shimmered in the bucket.

Peter: Oh, this is nice!

Sammy: But look what is through this little door.

Narrator: Sammy led the other kids out into the sunshine where Grandpa had made a goat playground with tree stumps. The kids climbed and jumped. Such a fun time! The playground had tall, fenced walls and even a fenced top.

Nana: Sharing our mountain with us are mountain lions, bobcats, coyotes, owls, hawks and eagles. Your barn and playground will keep you safe.

Narrator: So the kids settled in for a good night's sleep.

Narrator: Chapter 2: Exploring
The sun woke everyone early the next day.

Nana: Good morning, little ones. It's time for your first lessons. First you must learn to walk from the barn to the pasture – and remember, no cutting, no butting!

Narrator: Peter led the way as he was the oldest and biggest. Fanny and Heidi skipped along behind Peter.

Sammy: I don't want to walk in line. I want to be FIRST!

Narrator: Outside the barn was a great wide pasture. Like the little playground, there were fences all around the edges to protect the kids from predators. Instead of stumps and logs, there were huge rocks just right for goat climbing. And best of all, there were so many yummy weeds to eat. The little goat kids were nervous at first.

Nana: It's okay to explore. Most kids are a little bit afraid when they are someplace new.

Narrator: After awhile the kids seemed more comfortable. Nana called them to her.

Nana: Do you know the story of Peter Rabbit?" Peter Rabbit was a very curious bunny who liked to explore. Even though he knew it was not safe to visit his neighbor's garden, he went there to play. That was a very silly thing to do. Old Mr. McGregor made Peter into a rabbit pie and ate him all up! You must promise me to stay in your pasture, and not visit the neighbor's fields. Don't be silly goats!

Narrator: Nana left the kids to eat and play. From the deck of her house Nana watched the kids play "King of the Mountain" and other chasing games.

Sammy: Let's try this yummy grass on the other side of the fence.

Narrator: Suddenly Nana heard all four kids crying loudly, and she rushed to the pasture. Peter had remembered the lessons of "Peter Rabbit" very well – perhaps because they shared the same name. Peter stayed safely inside the pasture fence. But Sammy, Fanny and Heidi were now outside the fence, and they were afraid!

Peter: *Come back! Come baa-aack.*

Narrator: A few feet in front of the kids stood Old Mr. Cooper. His hands were on his hips, his feet were wide apart.

Mr. Cooper: Not a claw, not a paw, not a hoof, not a foot. NOTHING can come on MY land!

Narrator: Sammy, Fanny and Heidi ran to Nana and followed her back inside the fence. Peter was so happy to see his friends, and they were happy to see him, too.

Nana: Can you tell me what you have learned today?

Peter: I can lead the other kids from the barn to the pasture.

Nana: And what have you learned, Sammy?

Sammy: It is safer and much nicer to stay in your own pasture!

Narrator: Nana's new kids had learned enough for one day. All the goats followed Nana from the pasture to the barn – even Sammy. Nana gave them a special corn treat as well as pats and hugs.

Nana: Good Night, my silly little goats!

Narrator: Chapter 3: Adventures

The next day, the goat kids went outside to play. Yesterday had been a scary day, so all the kids promised to stay inside their pasture and not be silly goats.

Soon they were busy eating, playing and exploring. Little Heidi wiggled down between the big rocks for some particularly tasty weeds. Overhead a huge shadow blocked out the sun. High above Heidi floated a golden eagle – a very hungry eagle that had spotted movement between the rocks. Heidi tucked her little head between her hooves and stayed very, very still. In her imagination she saw all the predators that Nana had described – bobcats, coyotes, hawks, and mountain lions. It was too scary! The eagle flew lower and lower. He could no longer see what was moving between the rocks.

Eagle: What happened to my dinner?

Narrator: The eagle made one more pass over the rocks, and then flew higher into the sky. As the shadow faded away, Heidi cautiously left the rocks to play with her friends and tell them of her adventure. She may have made the story just a little bit more scary than it really was, and added just a few more predators than there really were, but isn't that what makes a better story?

Nana had been watching and thought her silly goats had all the adventures they needed. But Grandpa's orange tractor seemed to invite more mischief. On the front of the tractor was a big loading bucket that Grandpa used for moving rocks, dirt and logs. The little goats thought it was very fun to play there, and sometimes all four kids played in the bucket.

It was also fun to climb up on the seat of the tractor and pretend to drive! Fanny pressed the lever that raised the bucket. Up ... up ... up in the air went Sammy and Peter.

Sammy and Peter: *Bleaaaaaat!*

Narrator: Nana was inside the barn filling the kids' dinner dishes with corn. Hearing their cries, she ran out of the barn. Quickly Nana moved Fanny off the tractor and away from the lever. Ever so slowly, Nana brought the bucket back down to the ground. Out jumped Sammy and Peter! They were so very glad to be back on the ground again.

Nana: Silly goats! Goats are not meant to drive tractors – or to ride into the air!

Narrator: Even though her kids got into all kinds of trouble, Nana loved her silly little goats. She liked to sit in the pasture with them and watch them play. She also loved to read stories to them. One day Nana thought it would be fun to have her friends come for a picnic lunch in the pasture.

Connie: What fun!

Debbie: What a good idea!

Narrator: Together they hiked to the pasture with their sack lunches and chose a nice flat rock to sit on together. Debbie brought raisins and carrots. Connie brought cookies. And everyone had great big gooey peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Nana had never eaten in the pasture with her kids. She was in for a big surprise! Soon Nana and her friends had silly goats climbing all over them!

Heidi liked the crunchy carrots. Peter loved the sweet raisins. Fanny was sure that the chocolate chip cookies were made just for her. And Sammy -- well, Sammy decided to sample a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. It was very, very sticky inside his little mouth!

Sammy: *Blaaaah!*

Nana: Silly goats! Goats are not meant to eat peanut butter!

Narrator: Peter, Sammy, Fanny and Heidi, Nana's silly goats, continued to eat and play each day in their pasture. Some days there was an adventure; some days were just peaceful and calm. Every night they went to sleep in their safe, warm barn. And every afternoon, Nana gathered them together to tell the kids stories – for all teachers love to teach, and all kinds of kids love to learn.

THE END