



LITTLE REE

BY REE DRUMMOND
ILLUSTRATED BY
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ABOUT THE BOOK

Little Ree trades in her city days for a country way of life when she moves with her family to her grandparents' ranch. She's excited to ride horses, swim in the pond, and help Grandma cook for everyone. But on her first day, she finds that living on a ranch can be tough. She has to get up at the crack of dawn, learn to herd cows, and make sure her horse, Pepper, doesn't eat everything in sight. And that's all before breakfast! Will she ever get used to this new place? Luckily, the end of the day brings a big family barbecue...and the happy discovery that being a country girl isn't about the right pair of boots, it's all about the right attitude.

STORYTIME ACTIVITIES

- **CITYSCAPE AND COUNTRYSIDE:** Ree moves from the city to the country. Discuss the differences between city and country life. What does the city look like? What would you see in the country? List the children's ideas on a chart. Then have them work in groups to create city and countryside murals.
- **NO PLACE LIKE HOME:** Reread the pages showing Ree's new bedroom. How does Ree make her new room feel like home? Ask the children what they would do if they could redecorate their own room. What would it look like? Children can make a drawing or a shoebox diorama of their dream bedroom!
- **MOVING ON:** Ask the children to think about Ree's feelings. How would it feel to move away from your own home? What would you miss? What would you want to take with you? Ree's cousins help her feel welcome in her new home. What could you do to make a new friend feel welcome in your school or neighborhood?
- **SOMETHING NEW:** Ree has many new experiences on her grandparents' ranch. She rides a horse, herds cattle, and attends a country cookout. Ask the children to think about something new they would like to try. Where would they want to go? What would they do there? Children can draw and write about their ideas.
- **FAMILY TREE:** Ree moves to the country to be closer to her extended family. Talk about Ree's family members (parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins). Draw a family tree to show the children the relationships between Ree's family members. Then have the children make a simple family tree of their own. Younger children might include only siblings, parents, and grandparents. Older children can add aunts, uncles, and cousins, too.

