

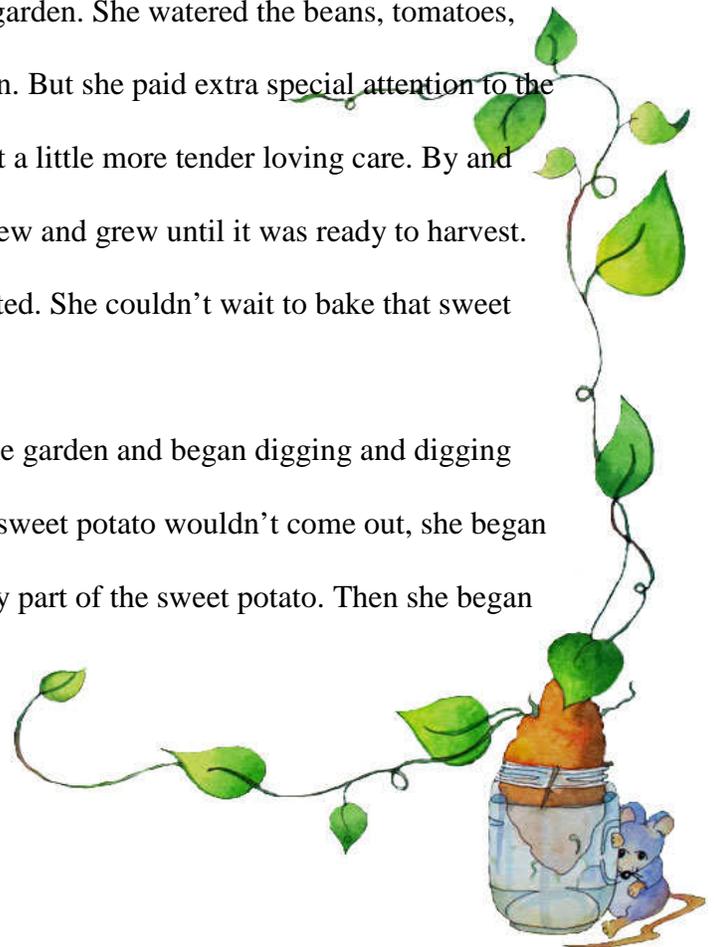
The Gigantic Sweet Potato Story Theater Script  
Adapted from *The Gigantic Sweet Potato*  
By Dianne de Las Casas  
Illustrated by Marita Gentry  
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STORYTELLER 1: Ma Farmer had a wonderful garden. In it, she planted beans, tomatoes, carrots, lettuce, and corn. One day, she had a hankering for some sweet potato pie! The problem was, she didn't have any sweet potatoes in her garden, and Ma Farmer liked to cook food that came fresh from her garden. So she went to the market and bought a sweet potato. When she got home, she placed the sweet potato in a container of water. Soon, the sweet potato grew roots and it was ready to plant.

STORYTELLER 2: She found a perfect spot and planted that sweet potato. Every day, Ma Farmer tended her garden. She watered the beans, tomatoes, carrots, lettuce, and corn. But she paid extra special attention to the sweet potato and gave it a little more tender loving care. By and by, that sweet potato grew and grew until it was ready to harvest. Ma Farmer was so excited. She couldn't wait to bake that sweet potato pie!

STORYTELLER 3: Ma Farmer went into the garden and began digging and digging and digging. When the sweet potato wouldn't come out, she began tugging on the top, leafy part of the sweet potato. Then she began to pull:

CHORUS: "Heave ho! Heave ho!"



I'll put this sweet potato, just a little more to go!"

And she pulled. And she pulled.

But the potato wouldn't move.

STORYTELLER 4:

Ma Farmer said, "That sweet potato sure is being stubborn! I'll just go and get Pa Farmer to help me." So Ma Farmer got Pa Farmer.

"Aw shucks!" Ma Farmer grabbed onto the sweet potato, Pa Farmer grabbed onto Ma Farmer, and they began to pull:

CHORUS:

"Heave ho! Heave ho!

We'll put this sweet potato, just a little more to go!"

And they pulled. And they pulled.

But the potato wouldn't move.

STORYTELLER 5:

Pa Farmer said, "That sweet potato sure is being stubborn! I'll just go and get Bessie Cow to help us." So Pa Farmer got Bessie

Cow. "Moo. Moo." Ma Farmer grabbed onto the sweet potato, Pa Farmer grabbed onto Ma Farmer, Bessie Cow grabbed onto Pa Farmer, and they began to pull:

CHORUS:

"Heave ho! Heave ho!

We'll put this sweet potato, just a little more to go!"

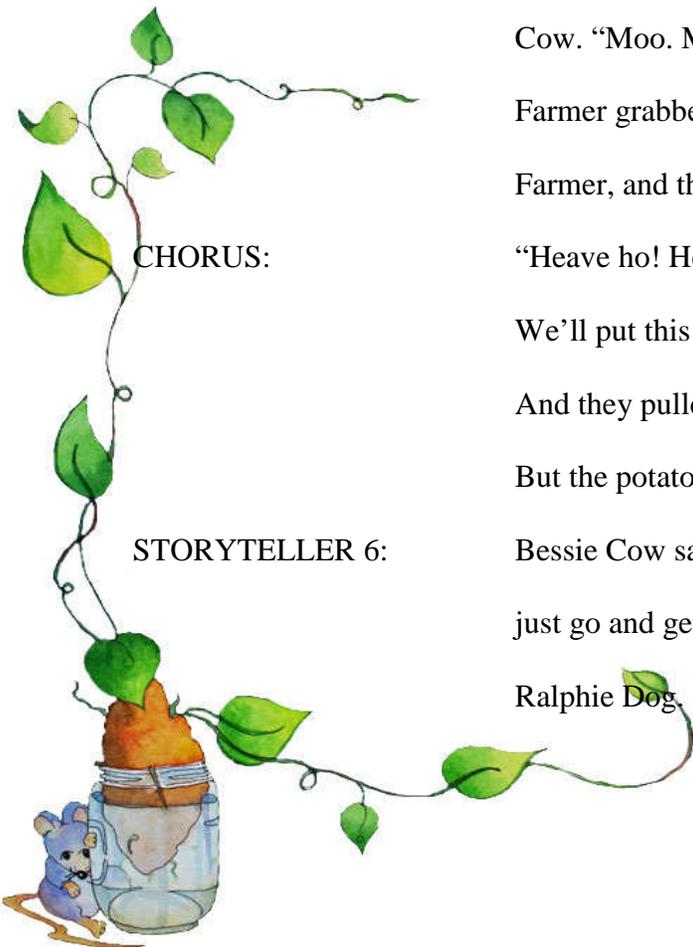
And they pulled. And they pulled.

But the potato wouldn't move.

STORYTELLER 6:

Bessie Cow said, "That sweet potato sure is being stubborn! I'll just go and get Ralphie Dog to help us." So Bessie Cow got

Ralphie Dog. "Ruff. Ruff." Ma Farmer grabbed onto the sweet



potato, Pa grabbed onto Ma Farmer, Bessie Cow grabbed onto Pa Farmer, Ralphie Dog grabbed onto Bessie Cow, and they began to pull:

CHORUS:

“Heave ho! Heave ho!

We’ll put this sweet potato, just a little more to go!”

And they pulled. And they pulled.

But the potato wouldn’t move.

STORYTELLER 7:

Ralphie Dog said, “That sweet potato sure is being stubborn! I’ll just go and get Kitty Cat to help us.” So Ralphie Dog got Kitty Cat. “Meow. Meow.” Ma Farmer grabbed onto the sweet potato, Pa Farmer grabbed onto Ma Farmer, Bessie Cow grabbed onto Pa Farmer, Ralphie Dog grabbed onto Bessie Cow, Kitty Cat grabbed onto Ralphie Dog, and they began to pull:

CHORUS:

“Heave ho! Heave ho!

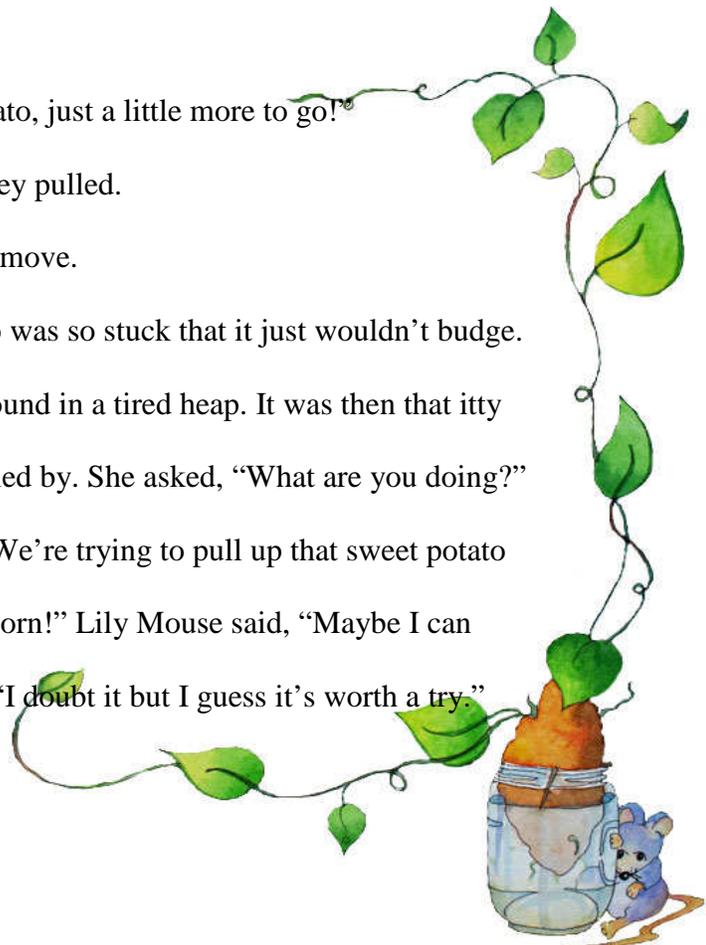
We’ll put this sweet potato, just a little more to go!”

And they pulled. And they pulled.

But the potato wouldn’t move.

STORYTELLER 8:

In fact, that sweet potato was so stuck that it just wouldn’t budge. Everyone laid on the ground in a tired heap. It was then that itty bitty Lily Mouse happened by. She asked, “What are you doing?” Ma Farmer answered, “We’re trying to pull up that sweet potato but it sure is being stubborn!” Lily Mouse said, “Maybe I can help.” Pa Farmer said, “I doubt it but I guess it’s worth a try.”



STORYTELLER 9: So Lily Mouse went to the end of the line. “Squeak. Squeak.” Ma Farmer grabbed onto the sweet potato, Pa Farmer grabbed onto Ma Farmer, Bessie Cow grabbed onto Pa Farmer, Ralphie Dog grabbed onto Bessie Cow, Kitty Cat grabbed onto Ralphie Dog, itty bitty Lily Mouse grabbed onto Kitty Cat’s tail, and they began to pull:

CHORUS: “Heave ho! Heave ho!  
 We’ll put this sweet potato, just a little more to go!”  
 And they pulled. And they pulled.  
 And guess what? The potato began to move!

STORYTELLER 10: Slowly, the potato emerged out of the ground until POP! The sweet potato popped right out. That sweet potato was some big. No, it was huge. No, actually, it was GIGANTIC! That sweet potato was so GIGANTIC that even when everyone held hands, they still couldn’t circle all the way around that sweet potato.

STORYTELLER 11: And guess what they ate for dessert that night? You guessed it! Sweet potato pie. Since everyone lent a helping hand, everyone got a piece of that GIGANTIC sweet potato pie, especially itty bitty Lily Mouse, whose mighty effort earned her an extra big piece of pie. Mmm, mmm, mmm. Bon Appetit!

