



## **STORY: THE STUBBORN TURNIP**

A Tale based on a Russian Folktale  
Retold by Dianne de Las Casas ©2006  
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Note: This story is told with string and appears in Dianne de Las Casas' book *Handmade Tales: Stories to Make and Take* (Libraries Unlimited, 2007)

Ma Farmer was in the garden and she saw that her turnip had grown to a giant size. She knew it was ready to pull. So she grabbed the turnip and she began pulling.

She tried to pull it up (clap, clap). She tried to pull it up (clap, clap)  
The stubborn turnip (clap, clap). The stubborn turnip (clap, clap)

“That’s a stubborn turnip,” said Ma Farmer. She needed help so she called Pa Farmer. Pa grabbed Ma. Ma grabbed the turnip and they began pulling.

They tried to pull it up (clap, clap). They tried to pull it up (clap, clap)  
The stubborn turnip (clap, clap). The stubborn turnip (clap, clap)

“That’s a stubborn turnip,” said Pa Farmer. He needed help so he called the cow. The cow grabbed Pa. Pa grabbed Ma. Ma grabbed the turnip and they began pulling.

They tried to pull it up (clap, clap). They tried to pull it up (clap, clap)  
The stubborn turnip (clap, clap). The stubborn turnip (clap, clap)

“That’s a stubborn turnip,” said the cow. She needed help so she called the dog. The dog grabbed the cow. The cow grabbed Pa. Pa grabbed Ma. Ma grabbed the turnip and they began pulling.

They tried to pull it up (clap, clap). They tried to pull it up (clap, clap)  
The stubborn turnip (clap, clap). The stubborn turnip (clap, clap)

“That’s a stubborn turnip,” said the dog. He needed help so he called the cat. The cat grabbed the dog. The dog grabbed the cow. The cow grabbed Pa. Pa grabbed Ma. Ma grabbed the turnip and they began pulling.

They tried to pull it up (clap, clap). They tried to pull it up (clap, clap)  
The stubborn turnip (clap, clap). The stubborn turnip (clap, clap)

“That’s a stubborn turnip,” said the cat. No matter how hard they tried, they couldn’t pull up the stubborn turnip. They were about to give up when a mouse came by. She said, “Do you need help?”

“A little bit more couldn’t hurt,” said Ma. “Okay, everyone, chins up. It’s time to pull up the stubborn turnip. The mouse grabbed the cat. The cat grabbed the dog. The dog grabbed the cow. The cow grabbed Pa. Pa grabbed Ma. Ma grabbed the turnip and they began pulling.

They tried to pull it up (clap, clap). They tried to pull it up (clap, clap)

And suddenly...

The turnip came up (clap, clap)! The turnip came up (clap, clap)!

Ma Farmer was so happy that she invited everyone over for a BIG bowl of turnip soup.

Never give up (clap, clap). Never give up (clap, clap).

And you can pull up (clap, clap) the stubborn turnip (clap, clap).

