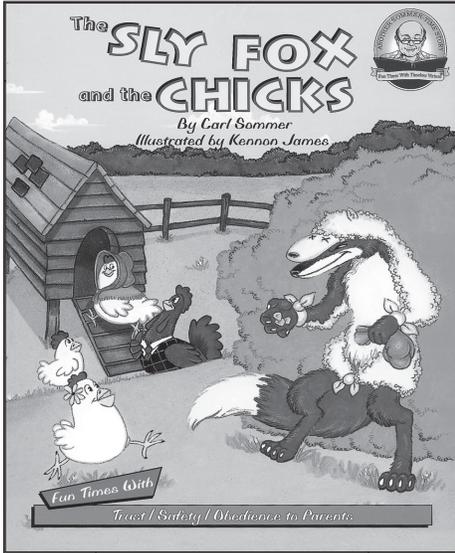


# Character Education Lessons

Carl Sommer

## 17. The Sly Fox and the Chicks



### about the book

Mama and Papa have always told their chicks never to have anything to do with strangers. But the sly fox disguises himself as a little lamb, and tries to trick the chicks into going with him. His early attempts fail because Clucky listens to Papa and Mama.

The fox finally succeeds by promising delicious corn to lure some of the chicks. After a horrifying experience, Clucky's sister Wendy escapes and realizes the importance of always listening to her parents and never talking to strangers.

To help protect our children from unscrupulous strangers in today's society, Carl Sommer teaches the importance of trust, safety, and obedience to parents.

### Main Virtues

Trust/Safety/Obedience to Parents

### Other Virtues

Caring, Cheerfulness, Compassion, Friendship, Generosity, Honesty, Integrity, Kindness, Respect for Parents, Self-Control, and Truthfulness

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## Being Deceived

Secretly, the sly fox dreamed of catching little chicks and eating them. And he would have done so long ago if it had not been for Papa Rooster and a great big dog named Gruffy.

Be careful that strangers don't deceive you.

## Obeying and Trusting Parents

Papa Rooster and Mama Hen taught Clucky, Penny, and the other chicks to stay away from the sly fox. They also warned, "Never talk to strangers, even if they are friendly."

Clucky always answered, "I will never talk to strangers!"

Be wise and always obey your parents.

## Being Ridiculed for Doing Right

"Mmmmmm! Mmmmm!" said Penny. "This is yummy food!"

"It sure is!" said another chick. "Clucky sure was foolish for not coming with us. He's going to have to eat that old dried food."

Then they all laughed at Clucky for being so foolish. Clucky was determined to obey his parents. Many times others will ridicule you when you want to do that which is right. Never give in to them.

## Never Listen to Strangers

"Thank you, Mr. Lamb," said the chick as it bent down to taste the corn. "Thank you for being such a nice friend."

All at once the fox leaped at the chick. And with one hungry gulp, he swallowed it.

The chicks that listened to the sly fox thought he was nice. Finally the true nature of the fox was revealed—he ate one of them.

Never listen to strangers. You never know what they will do.

## Strangers Can Deceive

One of the chicks said to Gruffy, "He ate my friends."

The sly fox lied and said, "Did you see me eat them?"

"No, I didn't see you," said the chick, "but I know you did."

"There you have it," said the fox to Gruffy. "You know kids. They just make up stories."

People who want to harm children are very deceptive. Always listen to your parents—they love you and want to protect you.

## Questions

1. What did the sly fox dream?

*The sly fox dreamed of catching little chicks and eating them.*

2. Who stopped the sly fox from eating the chicks?

*Papa Rooster and a great big dog named Gruffy stopped the sly fox from eating the chicks.*

3. A. What did Papa Rooster and Mama Hen warn the chicks about strangers?

*Papa Rooster and Mama Hen warned the chicks, "Never talk to strangers, even if they are friendly."*

B. Why did Papa Rooster and Mama Hen warn the chicks, “Never talk to strangers, even if they are friendly”?

*Papa Rooster and Mama Hen warned the chicks because strangers who want to do bad things often act very friendly.*

4. What would Clucky always answer?

*Clucky always answered, “I will never talk to strangers!”*

5. What did the fox say when he saw a lambskin hanging by the barn?

*The sly fox said, “I’ve got a great idea! I’ll steal the skin and pretend to be a harmless little lamb.”*

6. What did the fox say after he put on the lambskin?

*The sly fox said, “This will be a perfect trick to get the little chicks. They won’t be afraid of a little lamb.”*

7. When Gruffy saw the sly fox dressed as a little lamb, what did Gruffy do?

*Gruffy went back to sleep.*

8. For the first trick, what did the fox say to the chicks?

*The fox said with a sad voice, “Excuse me little chicks, but have you seen my little lost sister?”*

9. Clucky did not say a word. He never talked to strangers. But what did his sister say to the sly fox?

*Penny said, “We don’t talk to strangers.”*

10. What did the fox say when Penny said, “We don’t talk to strangers”?

*The fox said, “Oh, I’m not a stranger. I’m just a nice lamb trying to be your friend. Could you please help me find my little lost sister?”*

11. What did the sly fox say to the chicks for the second trick,?

*The sly fox said, “Would anyone like to ride in my new wagon?”*

12. Clucky did not say a word. He never talked to strangers. But what did his sister say to the sly fox?

*Penny said, “We can’t take rides with strangers.”*

Penny disobeyed her parents by talking to strangers. Wise children obey their parents.

13. What did the fox say he would give the chicks if they would ride in his new wagon?

*The fox said, “I’ll give you this candy if you would ride in my new wagon.”*

14. The first time the chicks ran away. How did they go away the second time?

*The second time the chicks walked away.*

Notice how the chicks are becoming more comfortable around the sly fox.

15. What did the sly fox say he was when he came the third time?

*The fox said, “I’m Sheriff of the Woods.”*

16. What did the sly fox say to Clucky and Wendy about their dad and mom?  
*The sly fox said, "You're dad and mom have just been hurt in a bad accident."*

17. What did:

A. Clucky say?

*Clucky did not say a word. He never talked to strangers.*

B. Penny ask?

*Penny asked, "What happened to Papa and Mama?"*

18. What did the fox say Clucky and Wendy's parents told him to do?

*The fox said, "Your dad and mom said you should go with me to the hospital."*

19. For the fourth trick, the sly fox said, "I've got a perfect trick." What did the fox ask the chicks?

*The fox asked, "Hey, little chicks, do you like corn?"*

20. How much did the chicks like corn?

*Corn was the chicks' favorite food! They liked it better than candy!*

21. What did Clucky say when Penny said about the sly fox, "He's not a stranger. Look at him. He's just a little lamb. See how nice he looks and how sweet he talks. He just wants to be our friend"?

*Clucky said, "It doesn't matter if he's friendly, Papa and Mama don't know him, so I'm not going!"*

22. Why did Clucky refuse to go with the fox, even though he wanted to go and eat the delicious corn?

*Clucky trusted his dad and mom. They had warned him, "Never take food from strangers, and never, EVER go with them."*

23. What did a chick say about Clucky for not going with them to eat the delicious corn?

*The chick said, "Clucky sure was foolish for not coming with us. He's going to have to eat that old dried food."*

24. A. What did the chicks do after the one of them said, "Clucky sure was foolish for not coming with us. He's going to have to eat that old dried food."?

*All the chicks laughed at Clucky for being so foolish.*

B. Why it is so hard to do what is right when people make fun of us?

*It is hard to do what is right because we do not like to be laughed at.*

Those who have character do what is right regardless of others do. Clucky was determined to obey his parents. If others laughed or ridiculed him, Clucky was going to do what was right. We need to learn to do the same.

25. What did the chick say to the fox when he took it deep into the cornfield and said very kindly, "Here's the place. Now you can eat all the corn you want"?

*The chick said, "Thank you, Mr. Lamb. Thank you for being such a nice friend."*

26. What did the fox do to the chick?

*The fox leaped at the chick, and with one hungry gulp, he swallowed it.*

The chicks that listened to the sly fox thought he was nice. Finally, the true nature of the fox showed—he ate one of them.

Never listen to strangers. You never know what they will do.

27. As Penny hurried toward the fox, what made her suddenly stop?

*Penny saw beside the fox's mouth a tiny, white chicken feather.*

28. Who made that noise “Grrrrrrr.....!!!” just as the fox was about to gobble up the chick?

*Gruffy made the noise.*

29. What did the sly fox tell Gruffy that he was playing when he was chasing Penny?

*The sly fox said, “I was just playing tag.”*

Strangers who want to hurt children are liars.

30. What did Gruffy see that made him know the sly fox was lying?

*Gruffy saw a small feather by the fox's mouth.*

31. What did Gruffy do to the wicked fox?

*Gruffy tossed the wicked fox far away.*

32. When Penny told Papa, Mama, and Clucky about how the fox had tricked her and ate her two friends, what did they all do?

*They all cried together for a long time.*

Often when we do bad things, it hurts others as well, especially our family.

34. What did Penny say when Papa said, “Promise me that you will never, NEVER again talk to strangers”?

*Penny said, “I will never, NEVER again talk to strangers.”*