Goats

Goat

What bearded animal helps on the farm?
The goat!
What friendly creature is loaded with charm?
The goat!
Who can produce both milk and wool?
The goat!
Who grows long horns like a bull?
The goat!
What creature can mow your lawn,
Eating the grass until it's gone?
What animal can you always count on?
The goat!

—Meish Goldish

Vocabulary
produce - to cause to be or happen

discussion Questions and Activities
1. Read the poem as a class and discuss unfamiliar words.
2. Find the rhyming words.
3. List some words that rhyme with goat.
   Write your own rhyming poem.
4. Find the words that tell you what the goat looks like.
5. What can the goat produce? What else can the goat do to help on the farm? How does the goat mow the lawn?
6. Memorize and recite the poem.

P.A.S.S.

Reading—Grade 1: 1.1; 2.1; 4.1,2; 6.3bc.
Grade 2: 1.1; 5.1c; 6.3. Grade 3: 2.1; 3.1; 4.1a; 5.1a,3. Grade 4: 1.1; 2.1; 3.1b; 4.1a,3ab
Writing—Grade 1: 2.4. Grade 2: 2.5. Grade 3: 2.5. Grade 4: 2.2
Oral Language—Grade 1: 2.4. Grade 2: 3.2.
Grade 3: 2.3; 3.2d

April

The little goat
new grass lying down
leaps up eight inches
into air and
lands on four feet.
Not a tremor -
solid in the spring and serious
he walks away

—Yvor Winters

Discussion Questions and Activities
1. Read the poem as a class and discuss unfamiliar words.
2. What qualities does the goat have? Why might he suddenly leap into the air?
3. How does the poet want the reader to feel about the little goat?
4. Explain in your own words what the little goat is doing in the poem.
5. What two meanings does the word "spring" have in this poem?
6. Why does the poet call this poem “April?” How is the little goat like April? The comparison of the goat to April is an example of what kind of figurative language?
7. Find examples of alliteration in this poem.
8. Why does the poet feel the need to say the goat lands on four feet without a tremor?
9. Draw a picture or a cartoon of the scene described in the poem.

P.A.S.S.

Reading—Grade 1: 4.1,2; 6.1c,2,3bc. Grade 2: 3.1,2; 4.1; 5.2a,3a,4c; 6.3. Grade 3: 2.1,3; 3.1; 4.1a,2ac,3b; 5.1a,3. Grade 4: 1.1,3; 2.1; 3.1b,2ad,3a; 4.1a,3ab
Oral Language—Grade 1: 2.4. Grade 2: 3.2. Grade 3: 2.6

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