

Bacon and Wool: Sheepdog

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Farmer Bob had a neighbor who was also a farmer. Farmer Randall had a lot of sheep. So, he kept a sheepdog named Patches. Patches was great at herding sheep, but sometimes he forgot whose yard was whose. He also got lost from time to time, which didn't help.

On one occasion, Patches wandered over to Farmer Bob's farm. He trotted up the driveway, starting to think something was amiss. Everything was similar to his own home but strangely different. Patches glanced back and forth, looking for something familiar, and he found it when he saw Wool.

Wool the sheep was minding his own business and chewing grass. He'd found a tasty patch of sedge grass that he was working on very happily. Without warning, Patches came howling up to him and started running around and barking in his face.

Wool blinked in astonishment. He'd never seen such manners before. Baaaad Boy the goat was pretty rude, but he wouldn't just run up and shout in your face. Wool turned away from the dog, giving him the cold shoulder.

Patches followed him and started barking again. Wool found himself in an uncomfortable confrontation with this strange animal. He backed away, and before he knew it, the dog was barking and directing him to go this way and that.

Wool was halfway down the driveway, heading toward Farmer Randall's farm, when Bacon caught him. Bacon came snorting and stomping up to the confused sheepdog. Patches didn't know what to think of the pink pig. Farmer Randall didn't have any pigs. Patches quickly assumed it was a strange sheep and tried to herd Bacon toward his home farm, too. The two found themselves marching in step all the way down the driveway and up the lane.

Later that night, Farmer Randall loaded Bacon and Wool up in a trailer and drove them back to Farmer Bob's house. Patches sat in the truck, watching Bacon and Wool return to their pens. Farmer Bob wasn't very happy with either of them. He was even less pleased a couple weeks later when it happened again.

What could Bacon and Wool do? They had to obey the sheepdog's commands, right?



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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What stranger comes onto Farmer Bob's land?
 - A. Bacon
 - B. Wool
 - C. Patches
 - D. Drumstick

2. What does Patches not realize?
 - A. that he is a dog
 - B. that this is NOT his farm
 - C. that he is a good dog
 - D. that he is sick

3. Why does Wool go where Patches wants?
 - A. He's trying to avoid the dog and ends up doing what the dog wants.
 - B. He's trying to be nice.
 - C. He's lonely.
 - D. He is scared.

4. Who tries to save Wool?
 - A. Bacon
 - B. Wool saves himself.
 - C. Patches
 - D. Farmer Bob

5. Why does Patches try to make Wool and Bacon go to his farm?
 - A. He is mean.
 - B. He is crazy.
 - C. He is trying to do his regular job, but he's at the wrong farm.
 - D. He is old and does not know what he's doing.