



CHARACTER BUILDING LESSONS

CARL SOMMER

THREE LITTLE PIGS

About the Book

When Dozy, Pokey, and Hardy went out into the world, Papa and Mama warned them to build strong houses because of the big bad wolf.

Dozey and Pokey ignored their parents' advice and built flimsy houses. But Hardy listened to his parents by working hard and building a strong house. After the big, bad wolf blew down the houses of Dozey and Pokey, they narrowly escaped to Hardy's house, and learned a valuable lesson about doing their best.

In rewriting this classic tale, Carl Sommer teaches the importance of diligence, respect for labor, and self-discipline.



Main Virtues

**Diligence/Respect for Labor/
Self-Discipline**

Other Virtues

Assertiveness, Commitment, Dignity of Labor, Initiative, Obedience to Parents, Perseverance, Responsibility, Safety, Self-Control, Self-Reliance, Temperance, and Trust



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Diligent to Desire Wisdom

Long, long ago in a forest far away there lived a happy family of pigs. There was Papa Pig, Mama Pig, and the three little pigs, Dozey, Pokey, and Hardy.

Both Papa and Mama had taught them many things. But Dozey would rather do anything than listen to Papa and Mama teach.

Dozey did not want to learn. Wise individuals are diligent to gain wisdom.

Perseverance

Whenever Papa or Mama gave Pokey work to do, he would obey. But after a short while he would grumble. “This is hard work! I’m quitting!”

Successful people know the importance of persevering in spite of difficulties. They are diligent, and they do not let difficulties stop them. They believe in the motto: When the going gets tough, the tough get going.

Respect for Labor and Self-Discipline Brings Success

Whenever Papa or Mama gave Hardy work to do, he always listened and obeyed. And even when things got hard, Hardy kept working and working.

Hardy was a disciplined and diligent worker. Respect for labor and self-discipline brings success.

Obeying Parents

Dozey said to Hardy, “Why don’t you be smart and build a house like mine?”

“Oh no!” said Hardy. “I’m building a strong house. Remember, Papa and Mama warned us about the big bad wolf.”

As Hardy began mixing cement to lay the bricks, he got another visitor—Pokey.

“You’re working much too hard,” warned Pokey. “You need to learn to relax and play. Build a house like mine. You can always build a strong house later when it’s not so hot. Why don’t you come and play with us?”

“Oh no!” said Hardy. “I’m building a strong house. Remember, Papa and Mama warned us about the big bad wolf.”

Hardy was determined to obey his parents. Wise children do the same.

Being Harassed for Doing Right

Dozey and Pokey came to watch Hardy work. “Ha! Ha! Ha!” they teased. “We’ve already finished building our houses, and we’re having lots of fun. Ha! Ha! Ha!”

“You can laugh at me,” said Hardy, “but I’m listening to Papa and Mama.”

Dozey and Pokey walked away laughing as they hurried off to play. Sometimes people will laugh and make fun of you when you want to do what’s right. Those who are wise will never listen to such individuals.

Seeking Knowledge

At the library, Hardy was looking for books about wolves. He wanted to find a way to get rid of the big bad wolf once and for all.

Hardy was seeking knowledge by going to the library to find out how to build a strong house and how to get rid of the big bad wolf once and for all. Be a seeker of knowledge—you’ll never regret it. Going to the library and reading books is an excellent way to learn. Be wise; seek after knowledge.

The Law of Sowing and Reaping

Dozey shook all over as he watched the big bad wolf, with just one little puff, blow his house down.

“Ohhhhhh!” cried Dozey. “How foolish of me to build such a flimsy house.”

Dozey was lazy by building a straw house, now he reaps what he sowed.

Listening to Advice

Pokey and Dozey went to build new, strong houses, just like Hardy’s. They had learned their lessons—listen and work hard.

Pokey and Dozey had finally learned to listen to the counsel of their father and mother. And that is why they lived happily ever after.

Questions

1. What were the names of the three little pigs?

The names of the three little pigs were Dozey, Pokey, and Hardy.

2. What would Dozey rather do than listen to Papa and Mama teach?

Dozey would rather do anything than listen to Papa and Mama teach.

Dozey did not want to learn. Wise individuals desire wisdom.

3. Whenever Papa or Mama gave Dozey work to do, what would he always complain about?

Dozey would always complain, “I don’t want to work. I want to play.”

4. Whenever Papa or Mama gave Pokey work to do, what would he do?

Pokey would obey. But after a short while he would grumble, “This is hard

work! I'm quitting!"

Successful people know the importance of persevering in spite of difficulties. They are diligent, and they do not let difficulties stop them. They believe in the motto: "When the going gets tough, the tough get going."

5. Whenever Papa or Mama gave Hardy work to do, what would he do?

Whenever Papa or Mama gave Hardy work to do, he always listened and obeyed. And even when things got hard, Hardy kept working and working.

Hardy was a diligent worker. Working hard and diligently brings success.

6. A. What strong warning did Papa give to Dozey, Pokey, and Hardy before they left?

Papa warned them, "Make sure you build a sturdy house. If you don't, the big bad wolf can get you. And don't forget to study to learn how to build a sturdy house."

B. Why do parents give warnings to their children?

Parents give warnings to their children in order to protect them.

7. What did Pokey say after building his straw house?

Pokey said, "Look at the fine house I built. See, I didn't have to waste my time and study."

8. What did Pokey say when he found out that the library was far away?

Pokey said, "I don't need a library. I can figure out by myself how to build a strong house."

9. When did Pokey say he would build a stronger house?

Pokey said, "I can always build a stronger house later when it's not so hot."

10. What did Hardy do even before he started to build his house?

Every day Hardy would take a long walk to the library to learn how to build a strong house.

11. What did Hardy make up his mind to do even though the ground was hard and dry when he began to dig?

Hardy made up his mind that no amount of hard work would stop him from building a strong house.

12. What did Dozey say when he saw Hardy working so hard building his basement?

Dozey said, "Why don't you be smart and build a house like mine? That way you won't have to work so hard. Then you too can relax and play."

13. A. What did Hardy say when Dozey said, "Why don't you be smart and build a house like mine? That way you won't have to work so hard. Then you too can relax and play"?

Hardy said, "Oh no! I'm building a strong house. Remember, Papa and Mama warned us about the big bad wolf."

B. Why was Hardy so determined to obey his parents?

Hardy was determined to obey his parents because he trusted them.

Wise children do the same and trust their parents.

14. What did Pokey say to Hardy about working?

Pokey said to Hardy, "You're working much too hard. You need to learn to relax and play. You can always build a strong house later when it's not so hot."

15. What did Hardy say when Pokey said, "You can always build a strong house later when it's not so hot"?

Hardy said, "Oh no! I'm building a strong house now. Remember, Papa and Mama warned us about the big bad wolf."

16. What did Pokey and Dozey say when they came to watch Hardy work the next day?

Pokey and Dozey said, "We've already finished building our houses, and we're having lots of fun. Ha! Ha! Ha!"

17. A. What did Hardy say when Pokey and Dozey teased him?

Hardy said, "You can laugh at me, but I'm listening to Papa and Mama."

Dozey and Pokey walked away laughing as they hurried off to play. Sometimes people will laugh and make fun of you when you want to do what is right. Those who are wise don't listen to those who ridicule those who do right.

B. Why do people sometimes laugh at us when we want to work hard and become successful?

Sometimes people act that way because they are jealous of us.

18. What did Dozey and Pokey say when Hardy said, "I'm going to the library"?

Dozey and Pokey said, "Don't be so foolish. You need to learn to stop

working and studying so hard. Be like us and have some fun!”

19. What was Hardy looking for at the library?

At the library, Hardy looked for books about wolves. He wanted to find a way to get rid of the big bad wolf once and for all.

Hardy sought knowledge by going to the library to learn how to build a strong house, and how to get rid of the big bad wolf once and for all.

20. What did the big bad wolf say when he came near Dozey’s house?

The big bad wolf said, “I’ll blow that house down with just one little puff.”

21. When the wolf reached the front of Dozey’s house, what did Dozey do?

Dozey dashed through the back wall of his house, running as fast as he could to Pokey’s house.

22. What did Dozey say when he saw the big bad wolf blow his house down?

Dozey said, “How foolish of me to build such a flimsy house.”

Dozey did not listen to his father and mother, now he reaps what he sowed.

23. Where did Dozey and Pokey go when the big bad wolf began blowing Pokey’s house down?

Dozey and Pokey ran to Hardy’s house.

24. What did Pokey say when he looked around and saw the roof fly off of his house?

Pokey said, “There goes all my hard work.”

25. What happened to Hardy’s little brick house when the big bad wolf took a deep breath, and a mighty blast of wind ripped across it?

Nothing happened to Hardy’s house.

26. When the wolf was unable to blow Hardy’s house down, what did:

A. Pokey shout?

Pokey shouted, “You did it! You built a house that’s stronger than the big bad wolf!”

B. Dozey yell?

Dozey yelled, “Hooray! Now he’ll finally leave us alone!”

C. Hardy say?

Hardy said, “I don’t think so.”

D. Why did Hardy not think the wolf would go away?

Hardy did not think the wolf would go away because he did research in the library on wolves.

27. What did the wolf say when he began to scratch, jump, and pound on the roof?

The wolf said, "I'll show them, I'll make a hole in the roof, and then I'll crawl through."

28. What did the wolf say he would do next when he could not break through the roof?

The wolf said, "I'll just slide down the chimney."

29. What surprise did Hardy prepare for the wolf?

Hardy prepared a big pot of boiling water for the wolf.

30. What did the three pigs do after the big bad wolf was gone?

The three pigs ran outside and danced for joy.

31. What did Pokey and Dozey do after they left Hardy?

Pokey and Dozey went to build new, strong houses just like Hardy's.

32. What lessons did Pokey and Dozey learn?

Pokey and Dozey learned to listen and work hard.

Pokey and Dozey had finally learned to listen to the counsel of their father and mother. And that is why they lived happily ever after.