

## 01 Food Around the World

We often forget that people in other countries eat different things from us. There are many different kinds of food in the world.

In some Asian countries, for example, rice is the main food. In other countries, such as Britain and America, bread made from wheat is the most important food. In many African countries a kind of corn called maize is the most important food. Most countries have their own special dishes. Here are some examples. In China, sweet and sour pork, shark's fin soup, and fried rice are very common dishes. People from Thailand and India eat many different curries. They like their food hot and spicy. In England, a favorite dish is roast beef. People eat it with potatoes and peas. The Italians like to eat pasta, which is a kind of noodle made from wheat. French food is very famous

all over the world. It is often very rich. Fast food is sometimes also called “junk food.”

In recent years, fast food has become very popular not only in Taiwan but also in many other countries in the world. It was invented in the USA, and the first fast food was the hamburger. An interesting fact is that a hamburger does not actually contain ham. It's made from beef. There are restaurants and takeout places selling hamburgers in most cities of the world. It is easy for people to get fat if they eat a lot of hamburgers but seldom exercise. The most common international food, however, is Chinese food. There probably isn't a city anywhere in the world that does not have at least one Chinese restaurant. This is because there are so many different dishes from so many different parts of China. Indeed, whatever kind of food one likes, there is always something for everyone with Chinese food.

## 02 The Chickens Take A Holiday

The sun was about to rise on Farmer Tim's farm. Chester Chicken woke up the cows with his important news.

"The chickens are taking a holiday today, we worked too hard this week," Chester Chicken said. "You did?" asked Daisy. "Yes! We laid ten eggs this week," Chester said, "and there are only five of us."

Daisy smiled and nodded her head. Ten was a lot of eggs for five chickens. "Enjoy your day off," she said.

"But what about us?" the other cows said to Daisy. "We gave Farmer Tim 100 pails of milk this week. There are only ten of us!"

Daisy agreed with the cows too. 100 pails of milk would make a lot of cheese.

"But we can't take a holiday on the same day as the chickens," Daisy said. "What would Farmer Tim say?"

"The chickens are taking a holiday," Daisy told the trees.

The trees were not happy with this news. "I've dropped over 1,000 apples this season," one said. "And I've had a million cherries picked!" said another. "We deserve a holiday more than the chickens!" the trees shouted together. "We worked too hard all season."

Just then Rowdy Rooster hopped on the fence. It was time for the farmer to wake up. The chickens and cows and trees waited for Farmer Tim to come out.

But a minute passed and Farmer Tim did not appear.

Rowdy called two more times.

"Call him again," the chickens yelled to the rooster. "He must be having a dream."

Rowdy made one last call and this time Farmer Tim woke up. But he didn't come out and pick up the rake, or milk the cows, or check on the eggs underneath the chickens. Instead he opened the window and shouted loud enough for everyone to hear:

"I worked too hard this week, I say. It's time I took a holiday!"