Goat Art
Written by Angela Lowen

Decodable Practice Reader

Vowel Digraphs ee, ea, ai, ay, oa, ow

grown goat mean own train
keep roam free beep road
stay meal rows bean seeds
feasted grain loads hay feed
way pain coat afraid bleated
paint tree green feet display
week eat peas oats pays

High-Frequency Words

was a does to
oh the of what
do you one friend
Billy was just a kid when Ann got him. Now he is a grown goat. He is a big, bad grown goat. Billy does not mean to be bad. He just likes to get his own way. Ann tried to train Billy and keep him safe. It was a big job.


“Oh, no! Billy is on the road.” Ann rushed out and grabbed Billy. Ann tried to make him stay in the yard.
Billy made a meal of everything. He ate the plants in window boxes. He dug up and dined on rows of bean seeds. He feasted on grain Mom tossed to the hens. He fed on loads of hay in the barn. Mom called him “Billy the Pig.”

What did Dad say about Billy? “Billy gets my goat.”
“What do you mean?” Ann asked.
“I mean Billy upsets me. Billy makes me mad. Billy eats the feed. Billy gets in my way. Billy is a pain. He gets my goat!”

Ann petted Billy and patted his coat. “Billy, I am afraid that Mom and Dad will sell you. You need to be good.”
Billy bleated.
One day, Ann went out to paint with Billy. Ann tied him to a tree. Ann took out her paints. Billy got in them. He bit the rope and got yellow, green, and red feet. He stepped on her picture. “No, Billy, no!”

At home, a friend saw the painting. “I like it. It is different. May I take it? I will pay for it.” He gave Ann $5. Yes, Billy can paint!

Now Mom likes Billy. “He can eat the peas, beans, and oats.”
Dad likes Billy. “He is a fine goat. He pays his way.”
Billy and Ann make a great pair!