



# STUYVESANT HIGH SCHOOL'S SPARK PROGRAM



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## “A MOUSE STORY”

<http://www.academictips.org/blogs/the-mouse-trap/>

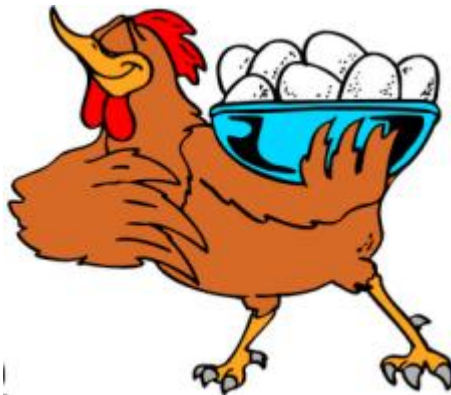
- 1. A mouse looked through the crack in the wall to see the farmer and his wife open a package.**

"What food might this contain?" The mouse wondered – he was devastated to discover it was a mousetrap.



- 2. Retreating to the farmyard, the mouse proclaimed the warning.**

"There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!"



- 3. The chicken clucked and scratched, raised her head and said,**

"Mr. Mouse, I can tell this is a grave concern to you but it is of no consequence to me. I cannot be bothered by it."



- 4. The mouse turned to the pig and told him,**

"There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!"

- 5. The pig sympathized, but said,**

"I am so very sorry, Mr. Mouse, but there is nothing I can do about it but pray. Be assured you are in my prayers."

- 6. The mouse turned to the cow and said,**

"There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!"



- 7. The cow said,**

"Wow, Mr. Mouse. I'm sorry for you, but it's no skin off my nose."

- 8. So, the mouse returned to the house, head down and dejected, to face the farmer's mousetrap – alone.**

- 9. That very night a sound was heard throughout the house –**

like the sound of a mousetrap catching its prey. The farmer's wife rushed to see what was caught.



- 10. In the darkness, she did not see it was a venomous snake whose tail the trap had caught.**

The snake bit the farmer's wife.

- 11. The farmer rushed her to the hospital and she returned home with a fever.**

Everyone knows you treat a fever with fresh chicken soup, so the farmer took his hatchet to the farmyard for the soup's main ingredient.

- 12. But his wife's sickness continued, so friends and neighbors came to sit with her around the clock.**

To feed them, the farmer butchered the pig.

- 13. The farmer's wife did not get well; she died.**

So many people came for her funeral, the farmer had the cow slaughtered to provide enough meat for all of them.

- 14. The mouse looked upon it all from his crack in the wall with great sadness –**

So, the next time you hear someone is facing a problem and think it doesn't concern you, **remember –**

**when one of us is threatened, we are all at risk.** We are all involved in this journey called **life.**

- 15. We must keep an eye out for one another and make an extra effort to encourage one another.**

To do the right thing. And be all we can be with kindness & compassion.

**"Each of us is a vital thread in another person's tapestry; our lives are woven together for a reason. One of the best things to hold onto in this world is a friend!"**