

A farmer and his sons

1 A farmer, who lived in a village, had five sons, all of whom were very naughty. They fought
2 with each other and never helped their father in the fields. The farmer was worried about
3 them and he always thought about who would look after the farm after his death.
4 Suddenly, he had an idea. He called his sons and gave them a bundle of sticks, which he
5 told them to break in half. One by one, they tried, but no one could do it. The farmer then
6 told them to separate the sticks from the bundle and they broke each of the sticks in less
7 than a minute. The farmer asked, "Did you learn a lesson from these sticks?" He explained
8 to them that if they all lived together in harmony, no one could separate them, but if they
9 fought with each other, they would lose everything.
10 The farmer's sons became good and hardworking, which made their father happy.
11 Unity is strength.

By Naila Hussain, Kirklees College

