

THE FARMER AND THE DONKEY IN THE DUNG PIT

Intent of the Story:

- *How to succeed in life in spite of opposition, troubles and reverses.*
- *Never give up*
- *Even reverses can be turned into opportunities.*
- *Crisis and difficulties are not stumbling blocks, but steppingstones for the brave.*

The Story

One day a farmer's donkey fell into a dung-pit.. The animal cried piteously for help to his master to be taken out of the well.

His unkind master, since the animal was too old and the dung-pit had to be filled anyway, decided to fill it with dung without retrieving the donkey

He asked his neighbors to help him to fill the dung-pit. They grabbed their shovels and began to shovel dirt into the pit. At first, when the donkey realized what was happening he cried pitifully. Then, to everyone's amazement he quieted down.

Our clever donkey, however, with each shovel of dirt that landed on his back, by shaking it off, would step on it and climbed a little higher. .

As the farmer and his neighbor carried on to shovel dirt on top the donkey, the animal slowly kept climbing higher and higher. When the dung-pit was filled, everyone was amazed to see the donkey stepping up over the edge of the pit and happily trotting off to safety!

Lessons for life:

- Life will shovel dirt on us, all kinds of dirt. The trick to get out of the trouble, and against all odds and to climb up successfully in life is to shake it off and take a small step at a time.
- Troubles and even reverses, actually, are stepping stones to get out of our dung pits and climb up in life. We can get out of the deepest pits if we never give up!