

**FULL COLOR  
HALF SHEET  
PRINTABLE  
STORY BOOK**

# Bessie Cow Learns about Loss



Bessie was a little cow who lived at Honeysuckle Farm. Bessie loved her life on the farm and was so happy to have a wonderful grandpa who took the very best care of her. Bessie loved when Papa Cow told her goodnight stories, read her books, and picked flowers with her.

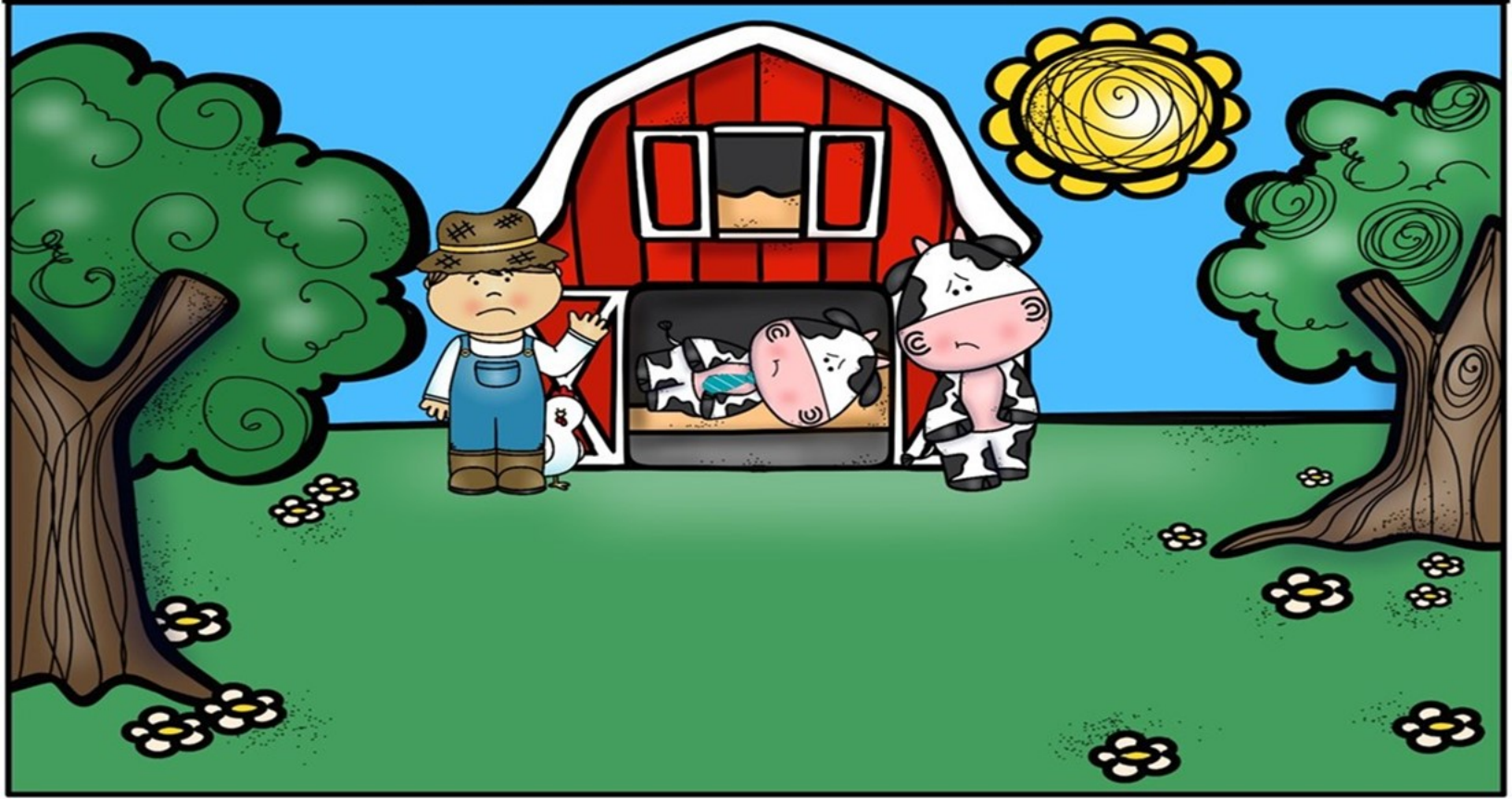




One day while Bessie and her grandpa were on a walk together, Papa Cow started to feel sick. Bessie felt really scared to see her grandpa not feeling well.



Bessie brought Papa Cow to Farmer Joe to see if he could help him feel better. Farmer Joe tried and tried, but Papa Cow got sicker and sicker. Bessie stayed by Papa Cow's side all day and all night.

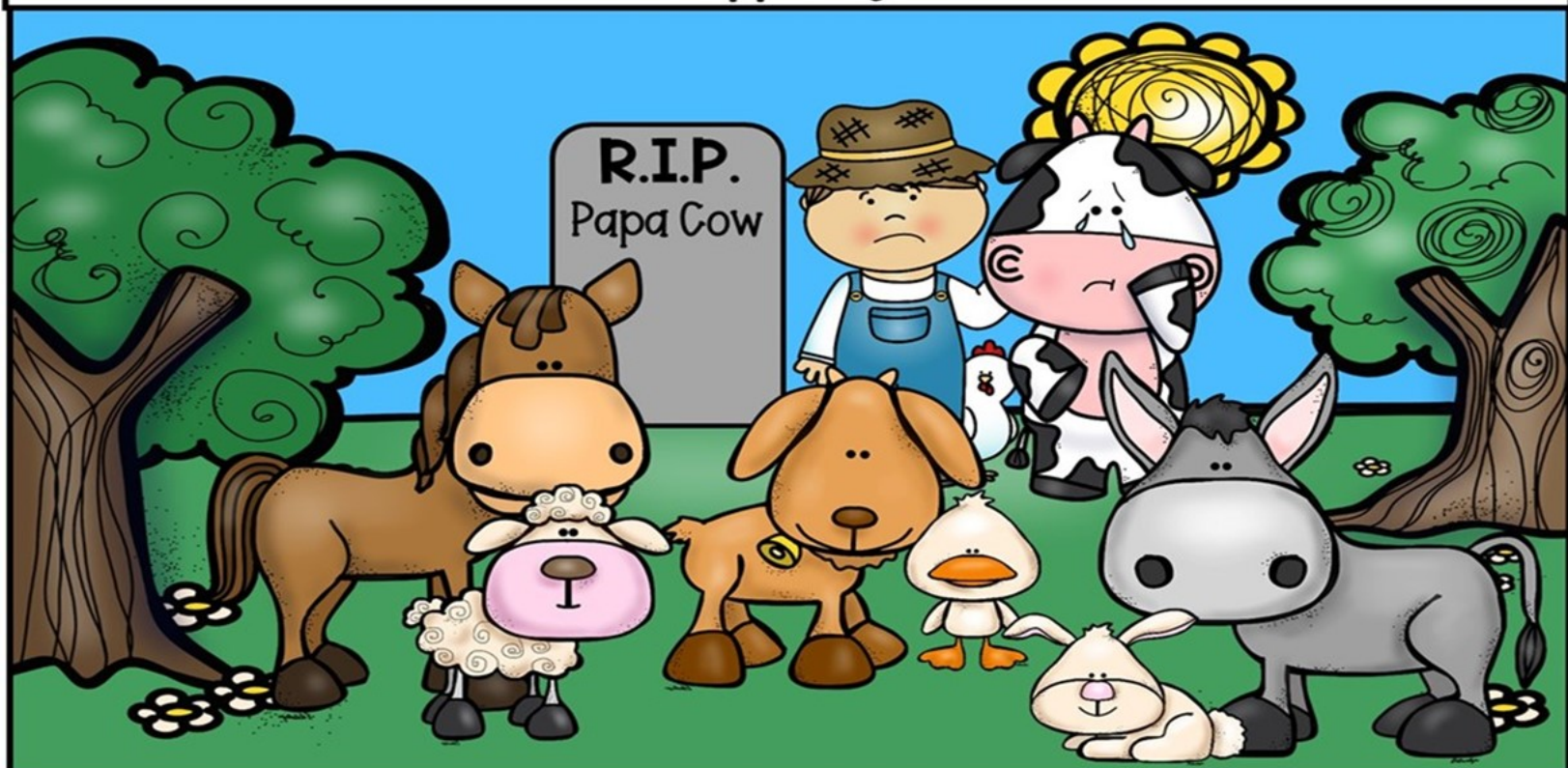




Bessie just couldn't believe her ears when Farmer Joe told her that he wasn't able to save Papa Cow. Papa Cow had died. What would Bessie do without her grandpa? Who would take care of her? Who would tell her goodnight stories? Bessie knew that her life would never be the same again.



All of the farm animals came the next day to Papa Cow's funeral to celebrate his life. They sang songs and shared stories of their favorite memories with Papa Cow. Bessie just couldn't believe this was really happening.

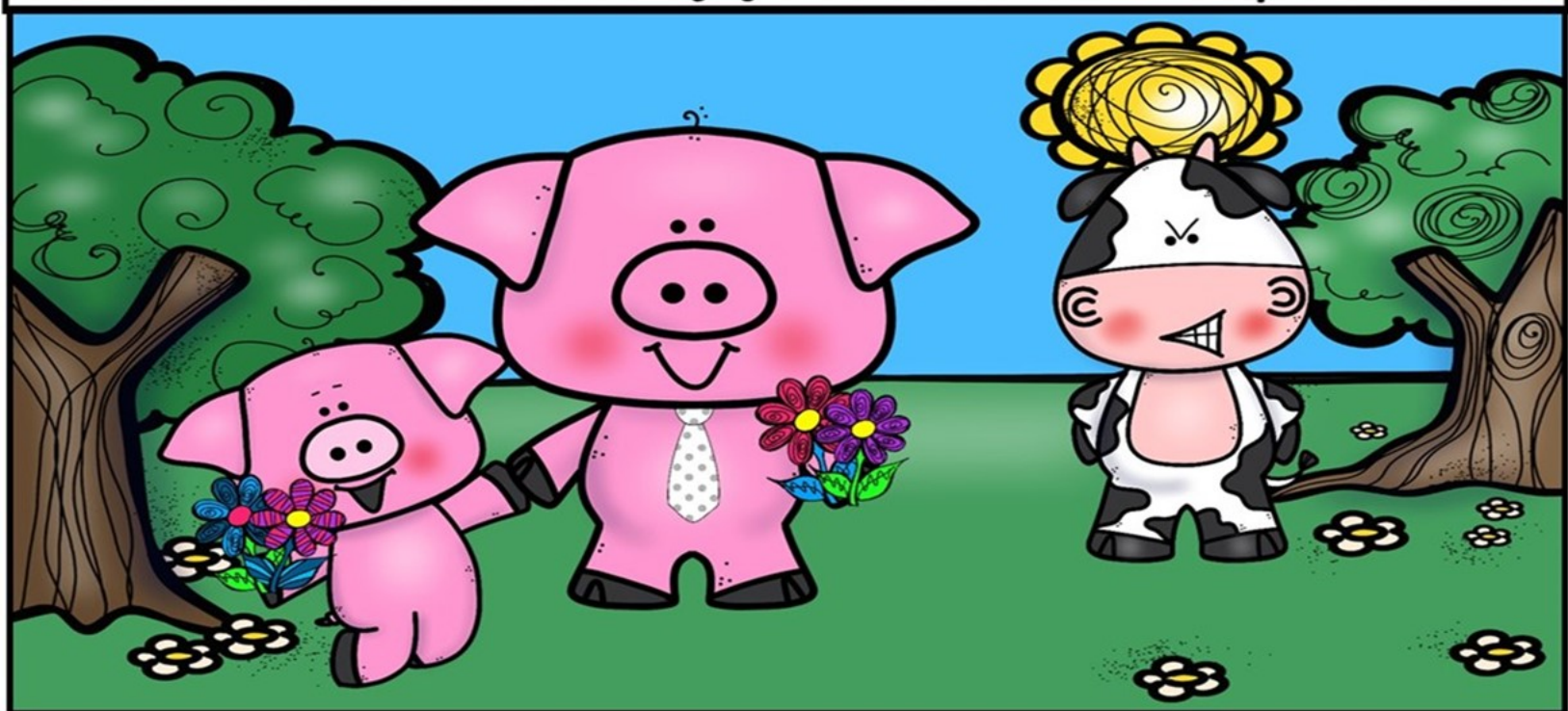




After the funeral, all of the other farm animals went back to their normal lives, but Bessie couldn't. Every morning she would wake up and think about what she would do with Papa Cow that day. Then she would suddenly remember that he was gone. She just couldn't understand why Papa Cow wasn't on the farm with her anymore.



One day, Bessie went for a walk and saw Penelope Pig and her grandpa picking flowers together, oinking in delight. Bessie wondered, "Why does Penelope still have her grandpa to pick flowers with but I'm all alone? This is NOT fair! Papa Cow, WHY did you leave me here on the farm all alone?!" Bessie felt so angry inside that she could explode!





Bessie took some deep breaths and walked to Papa Cow's grave. She pondered, "What if I had taken Papa Cow to Farmer Joe sooner? Or what if we hadn't played so hard together that day? Would he still be alive? Is this my fault?"

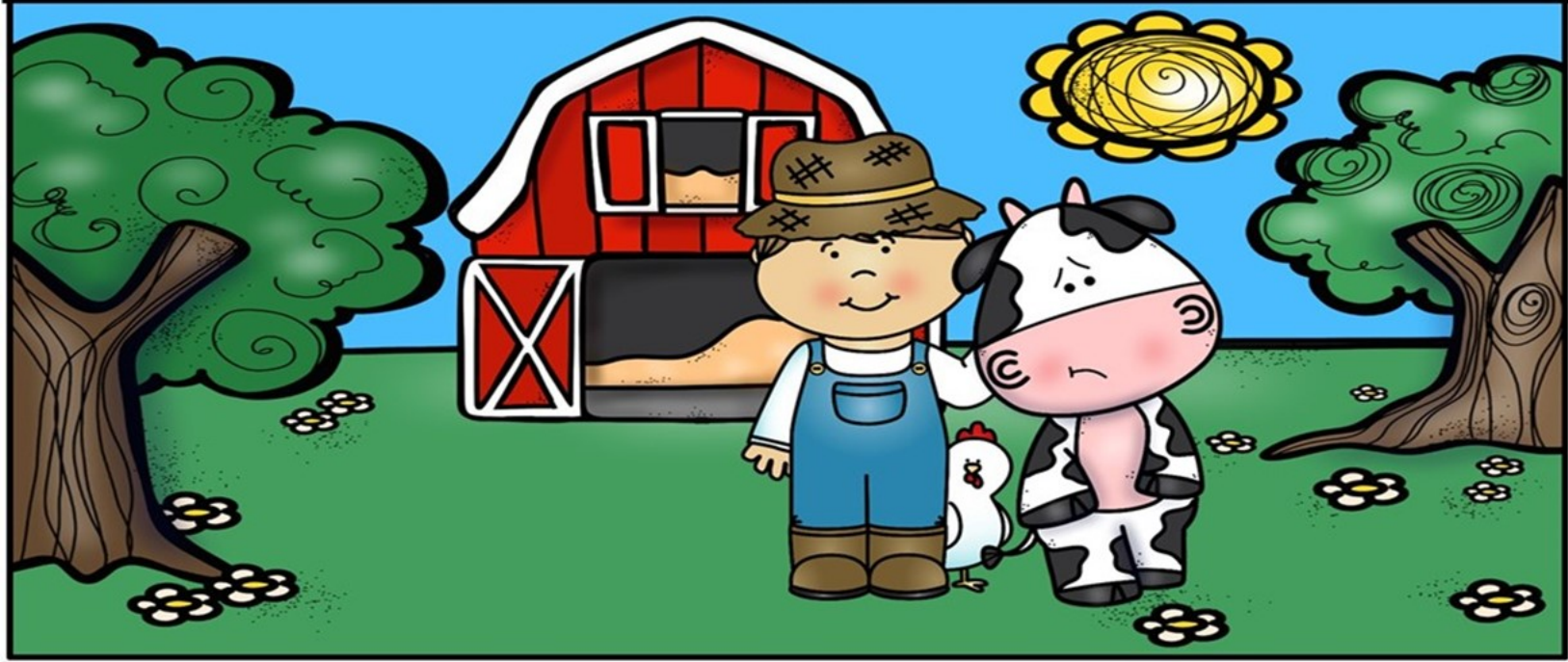


All Bessie wanted was for Papa Cow to come back. She went back to the farm and found Farmer Joe. She promised, "I'll never ask for anything else, ever again! Please, pretty please, just bring back my grandpa! I'll do anything to bring him back to the farm!"

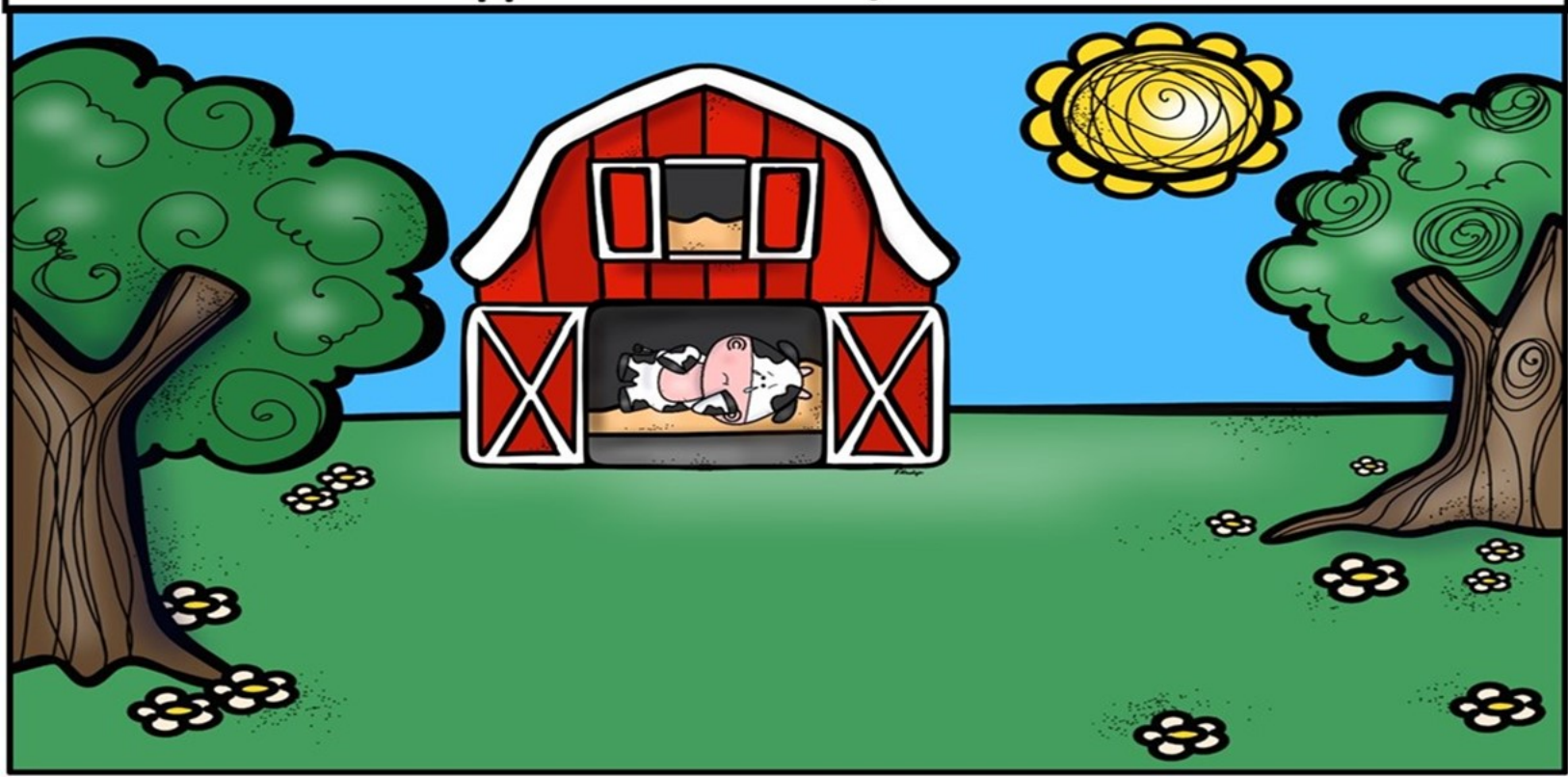




Farmer Joe replied, "Bessie, I'm so sorry you are so hurt. I miss Papa Cow too. If there was something I could do to bring him back, you know I would do it. But, when someone we love dies, we have to just remember them, honor them, and be thankful for the special times we had together. I know it's not the same, but I will always be here to take care of you, Bessie."



Bessie understood what Farmer Joe said. But she had never felt so sad before in her life. She just wanted to lay in the barn and cry. She didn't want to play any of her favorite games, talk to her other animal friends, or even eat apples or corn. She just wanted to be alone.

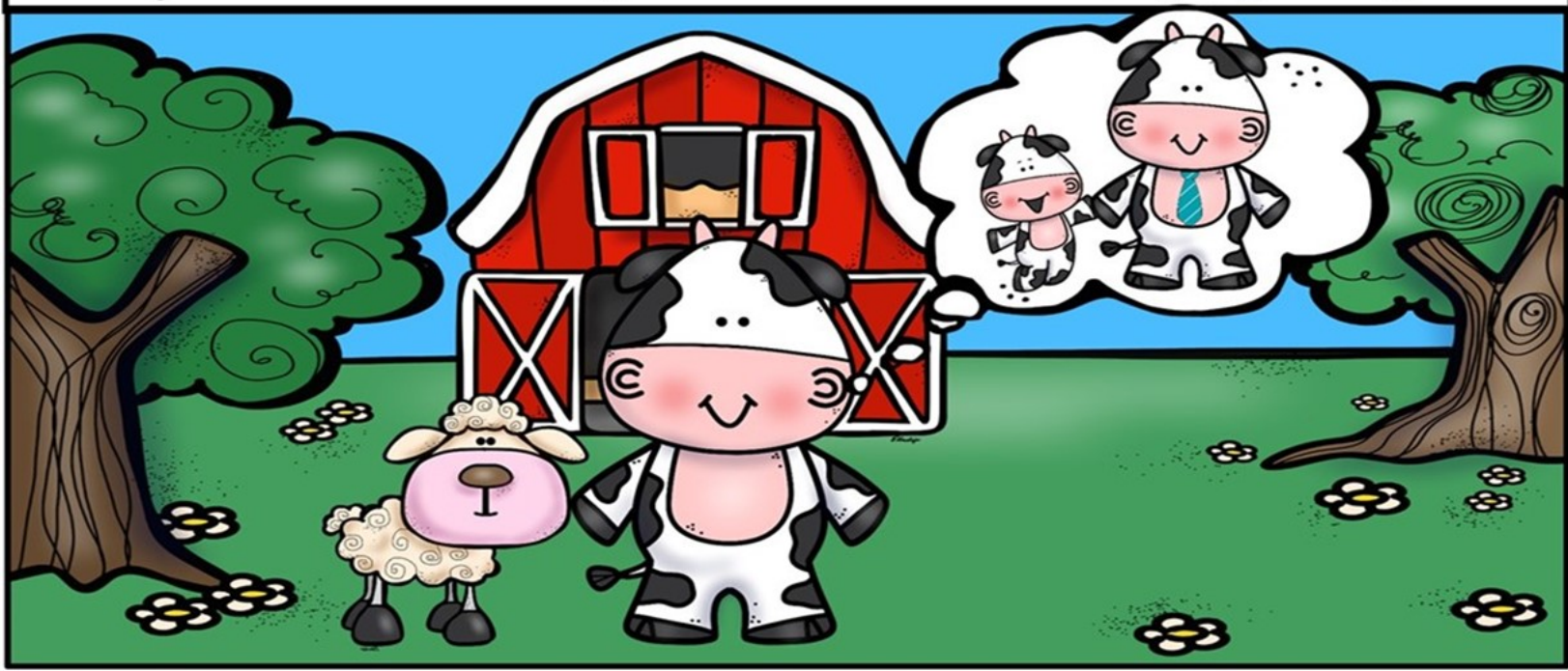




Little by little, as the days went on, Bessie started to feel more and more like the old Bessie again. One day she asked Sheila Sheep to go on a walk with her. She knew that Papa Cow would want her to be happy and to spend time with her friends.

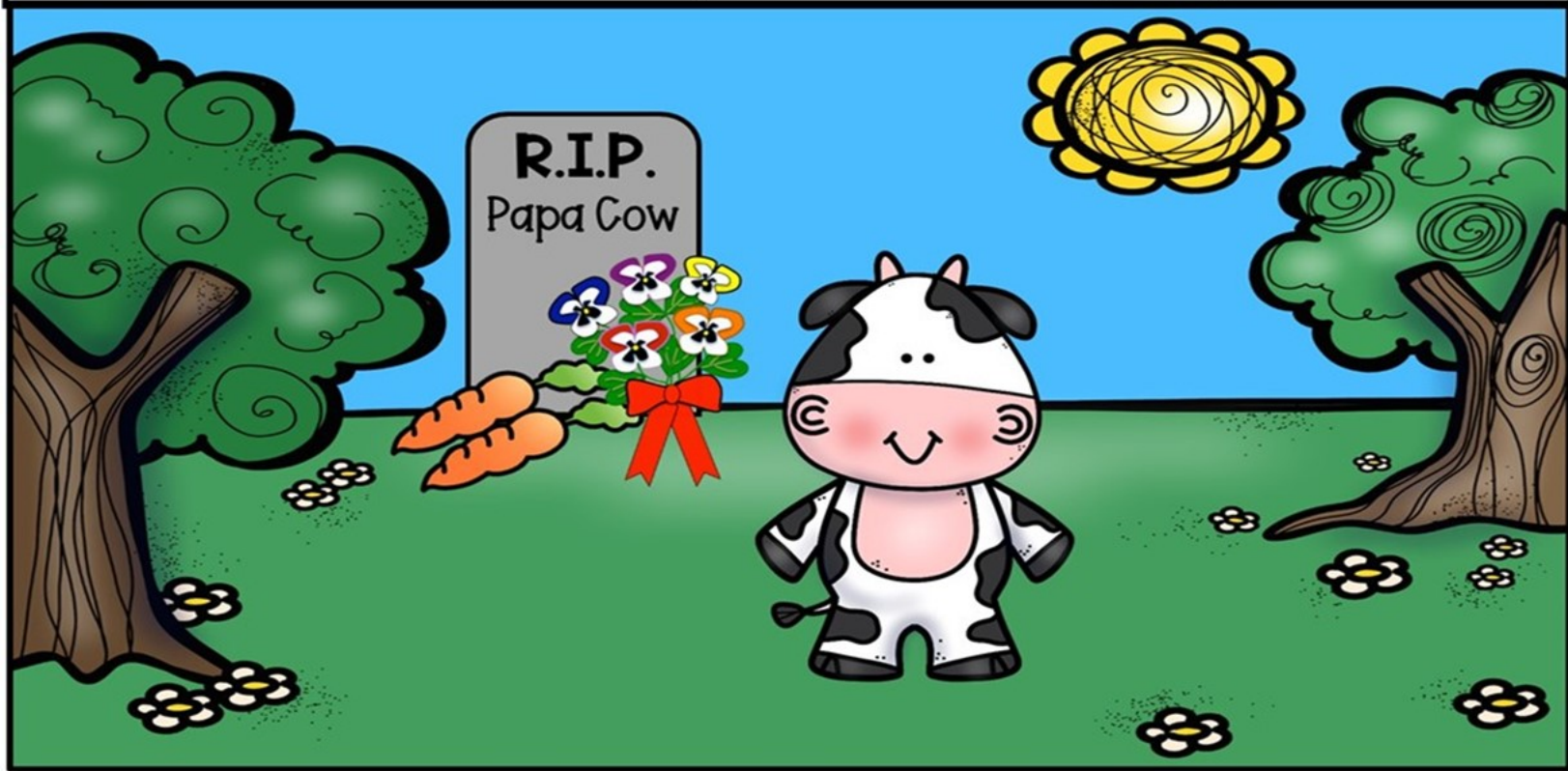


Bessie loved telling Sheila Sheep stories of her happy and silly memories with Papa Cow. Sheila shared that her grandpa passed away when she was just a little sheep, and she knows what it feels like to miss her grandpa. Sheila said Bessie can talk to her any time about Papa Cow and she will always listen. Bessie felt better knowing that she wasn't alone in her feelings and had a special friend who really understood what she was going through.

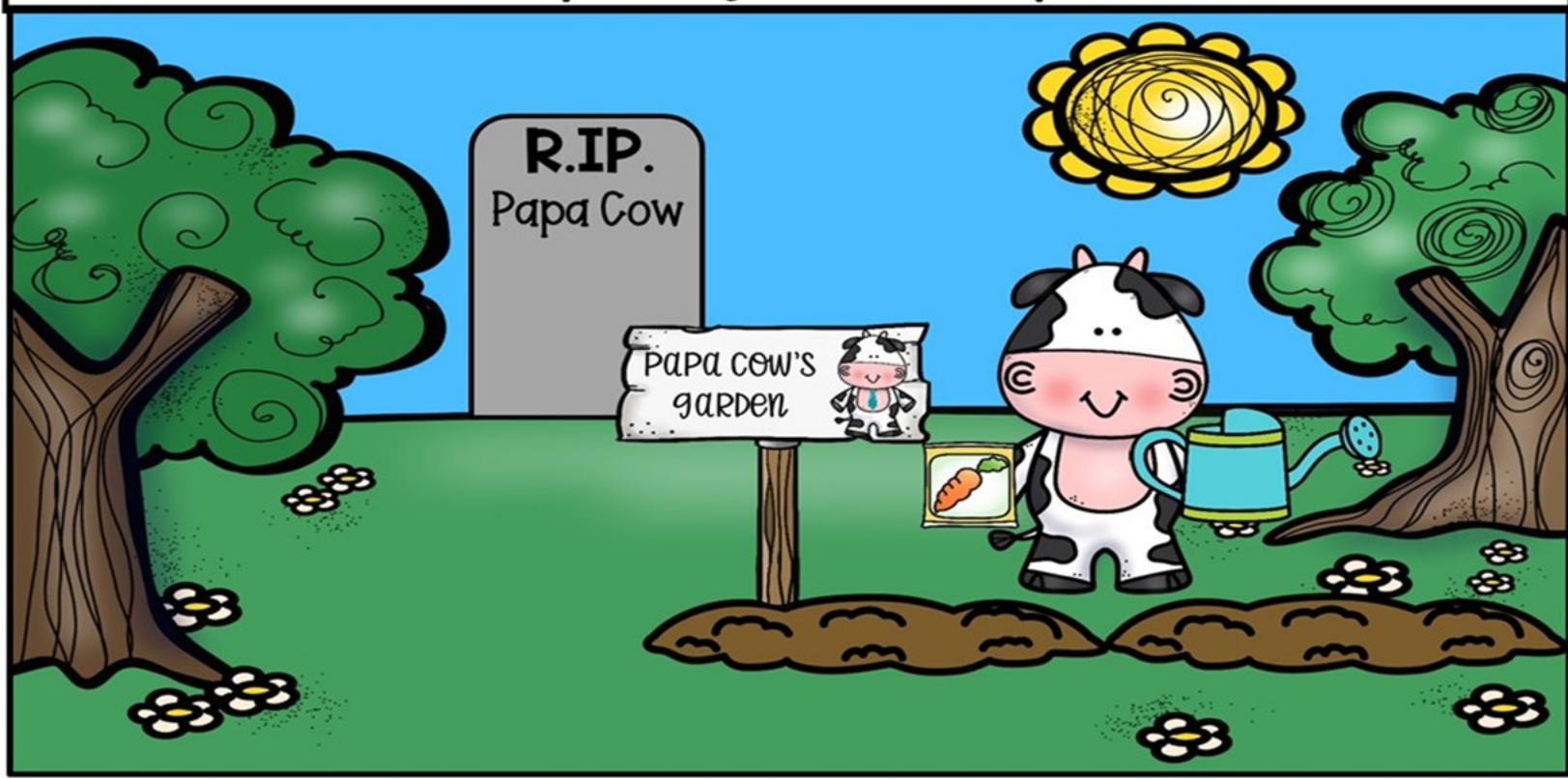




Each week, Bessie visited Papa Cow's grave and brought flowers or his favorite treat: carrots! She told Papa Cow stories from her life on the farm and remembered their best times together. It comforted Bessie to have this peaceful quiet time with her grandpa.



One day, while visiting Papa Cow's grave, Bessie had a great idea. She would create a carrot garden in her grandpa's honor for all of the farm animals to enjoy! She got to work planting the carrot seeds and even made a special sign to honor Papa Cow.

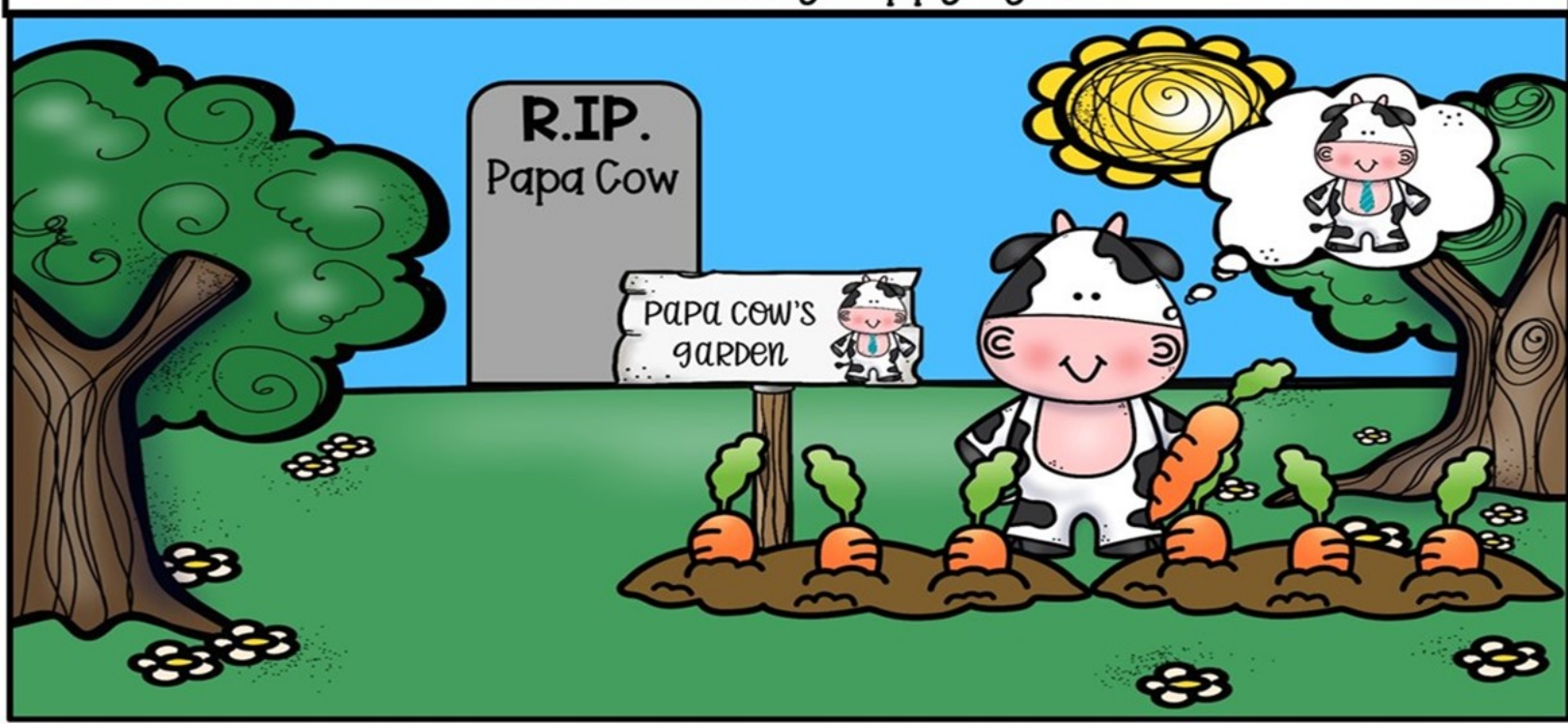




As soon as the carrots started to grow, Bessie invited Farmer Joe and all of the farm animals to visit Papa Cow's Garden. Bessie gave carrots to all of the animals and they shared special stories and memories about Papa Cow. Farmer Joe was so proud of Bessie. Bessie knew she had really created something special to honor her grandpa!



Bessie still missed Papa Cow and would give anything for just one more day with him at the farm! But, as she took care of Papa Cow's Garden, she laughed to herself thinking of their funny memories together and truly felt at peace. The garden gave her a new purpose and a new joy. Bessie was finally happy again.





**BLACK & WHITE**

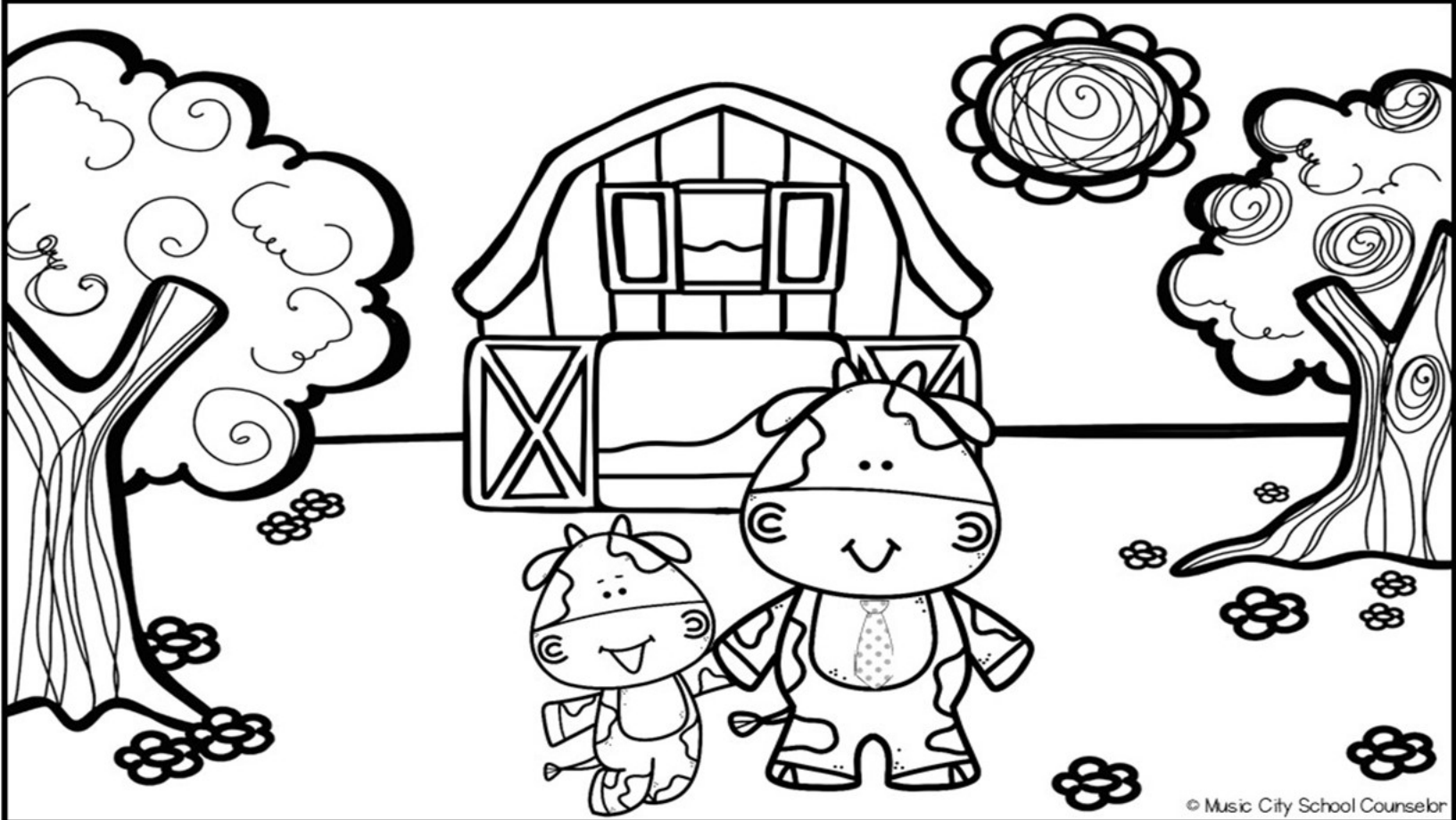
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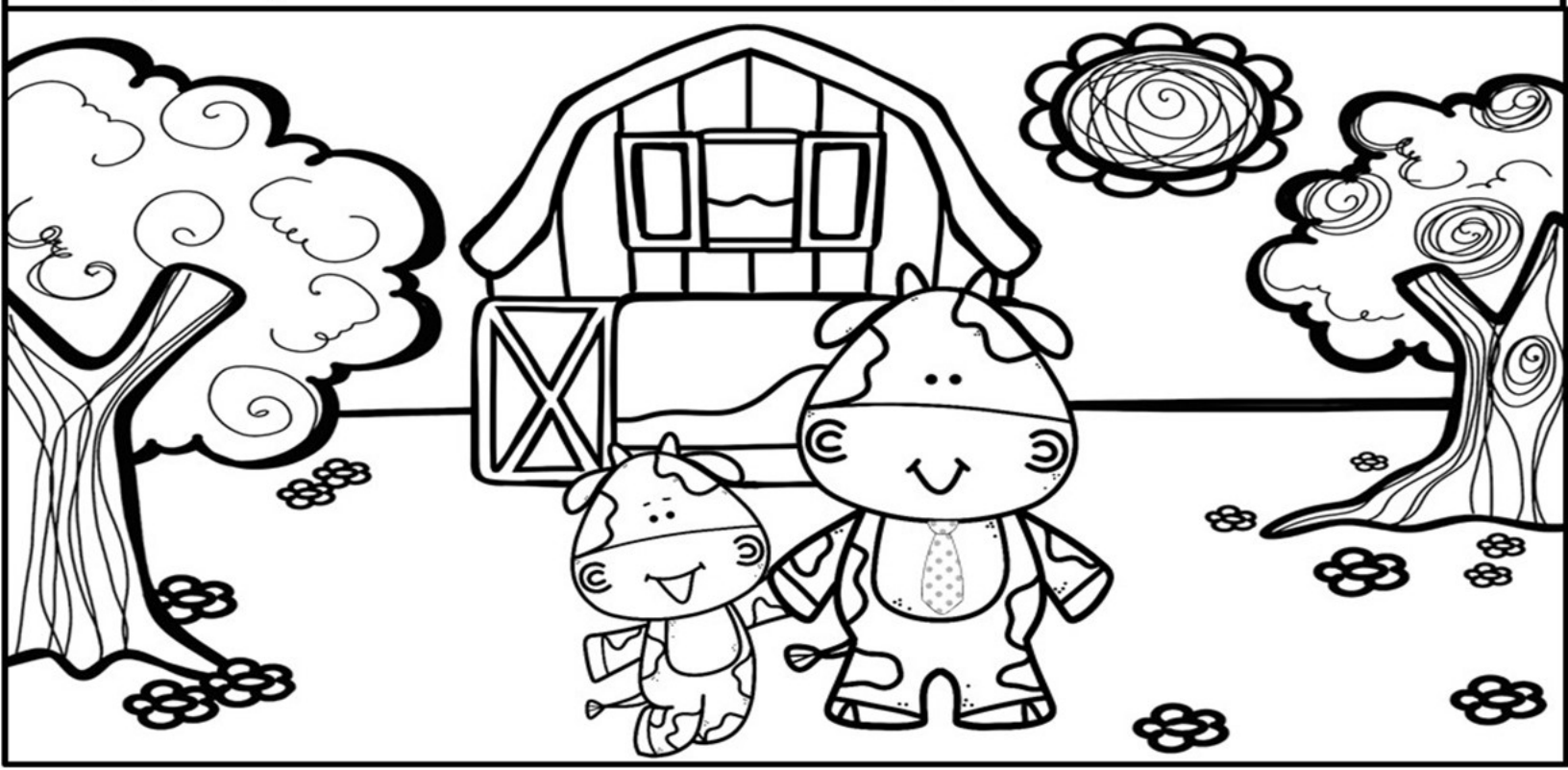


# Bessie Cow Learns about Loss



© Music City School Counselor

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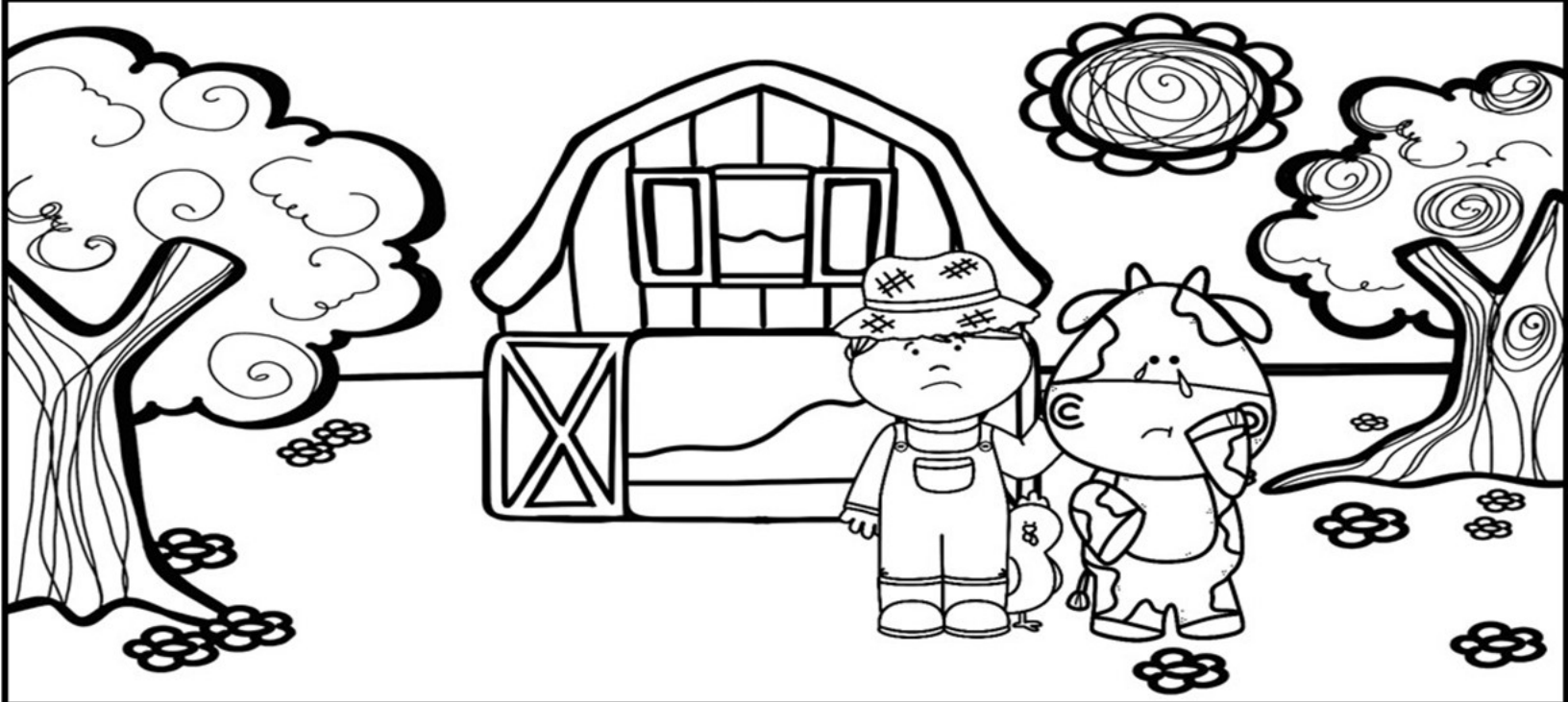


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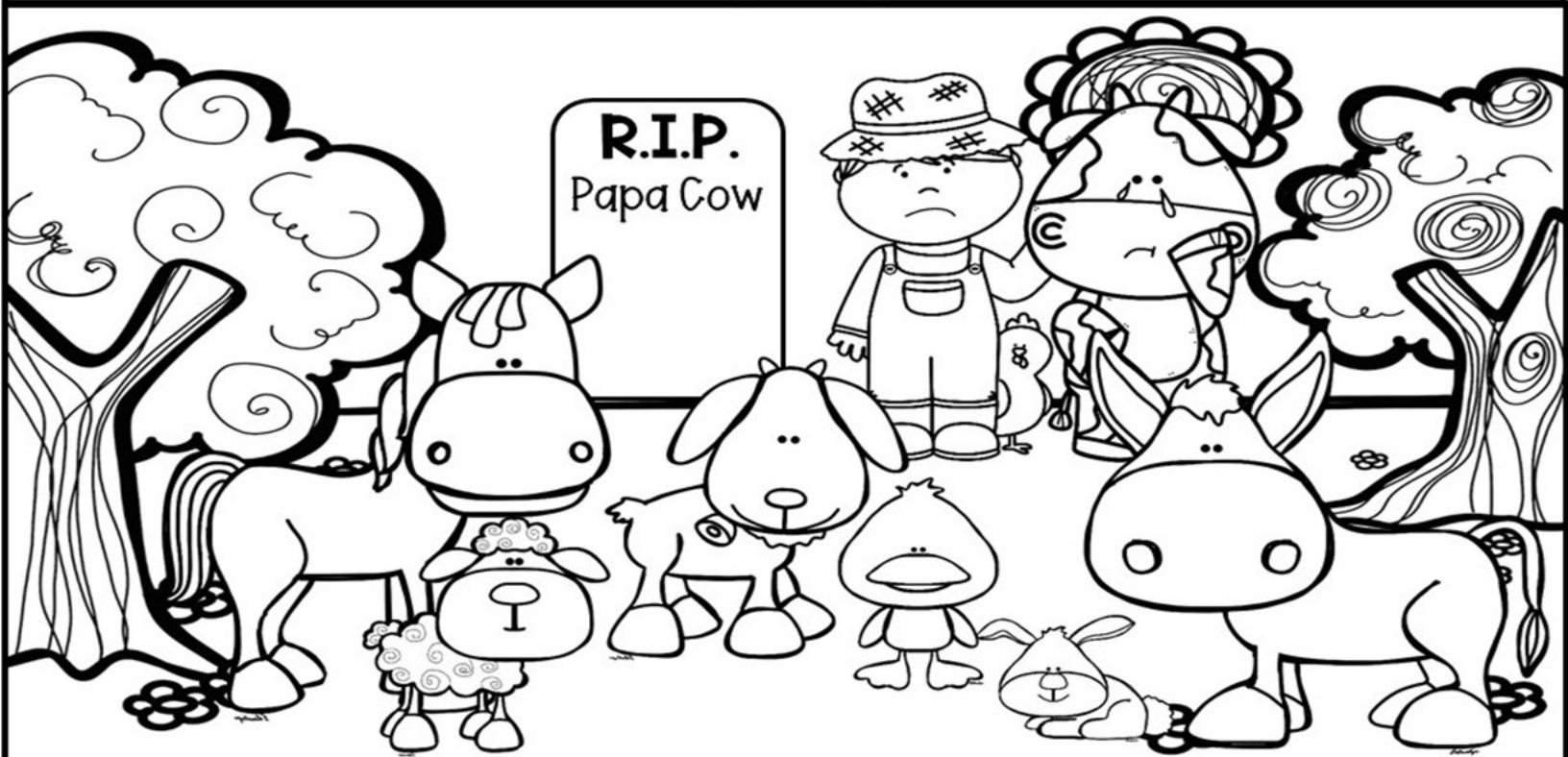




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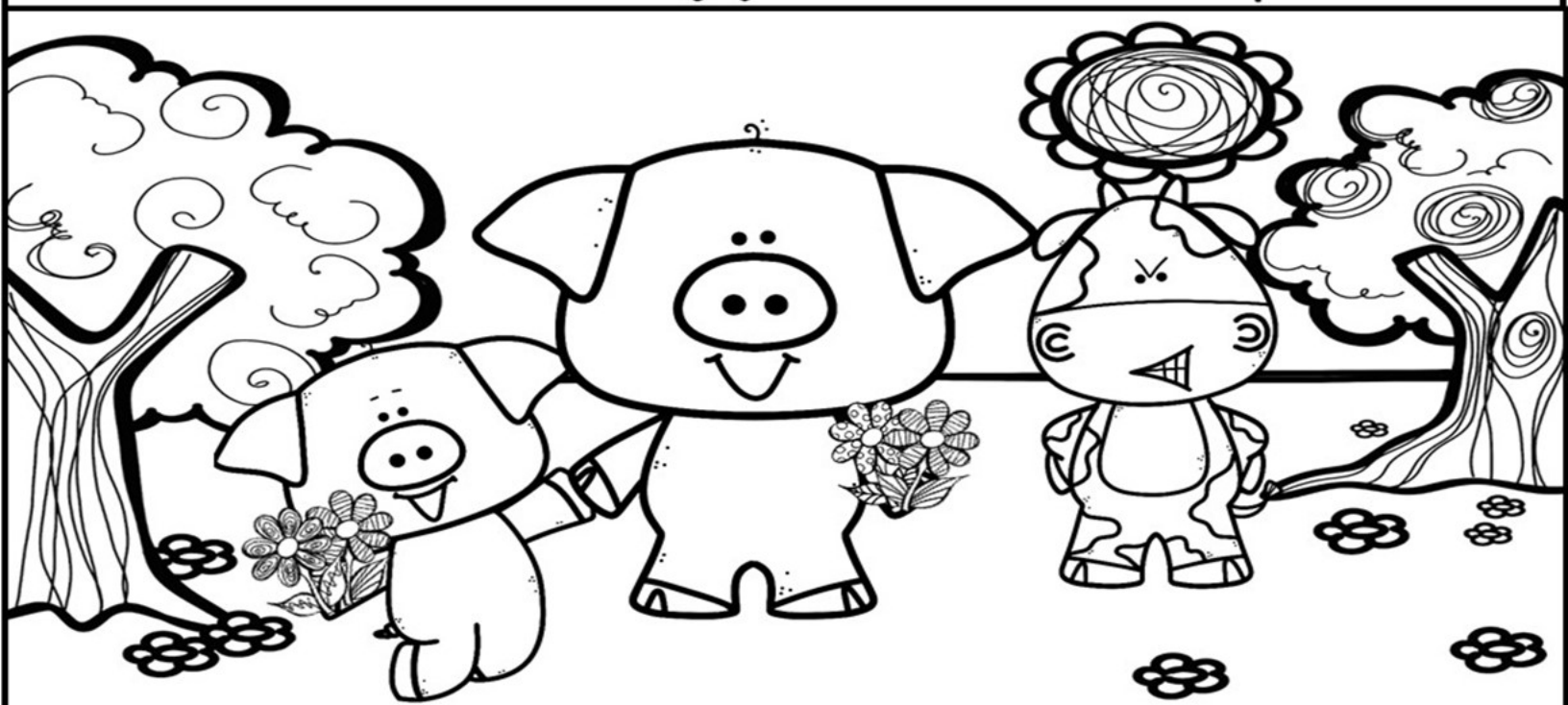




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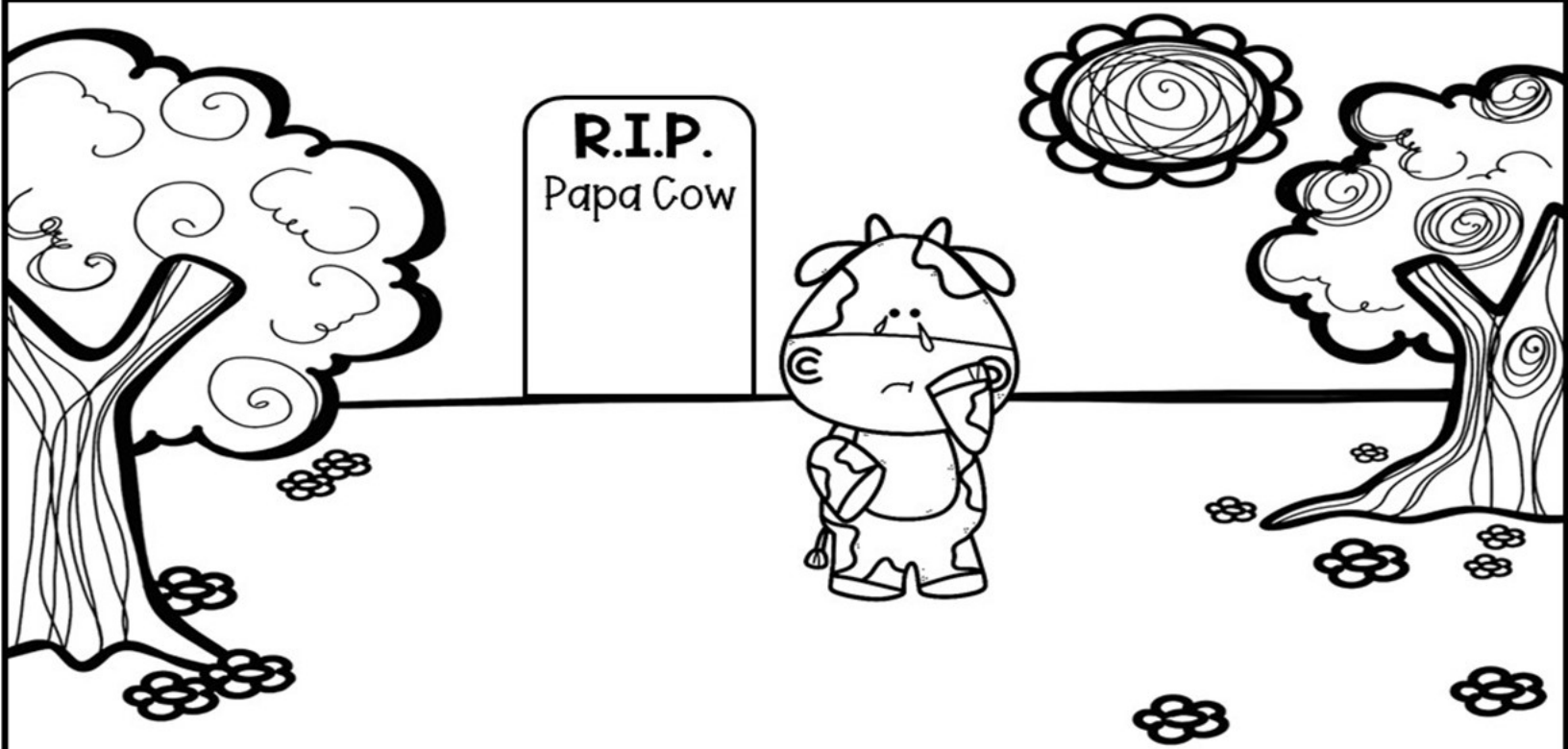


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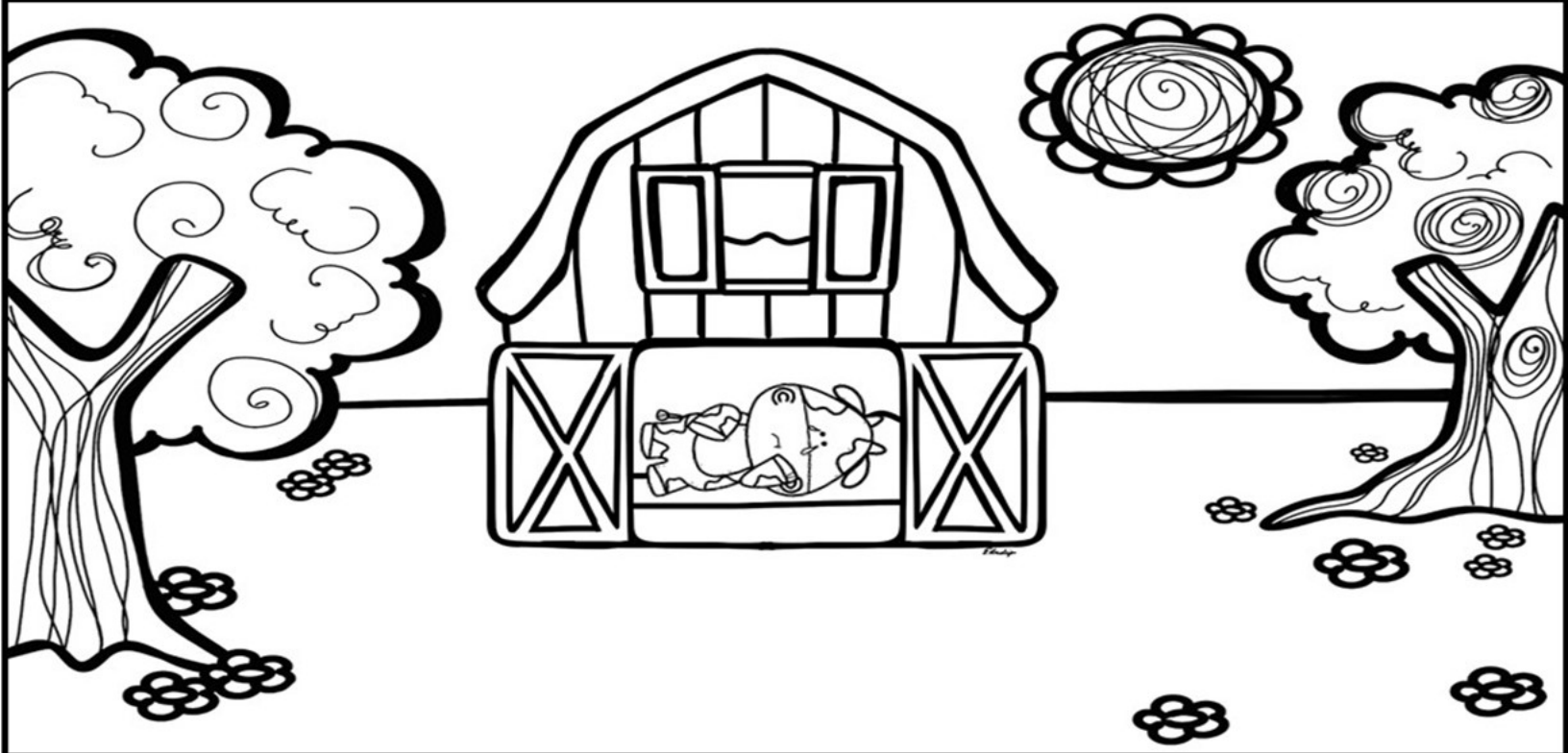




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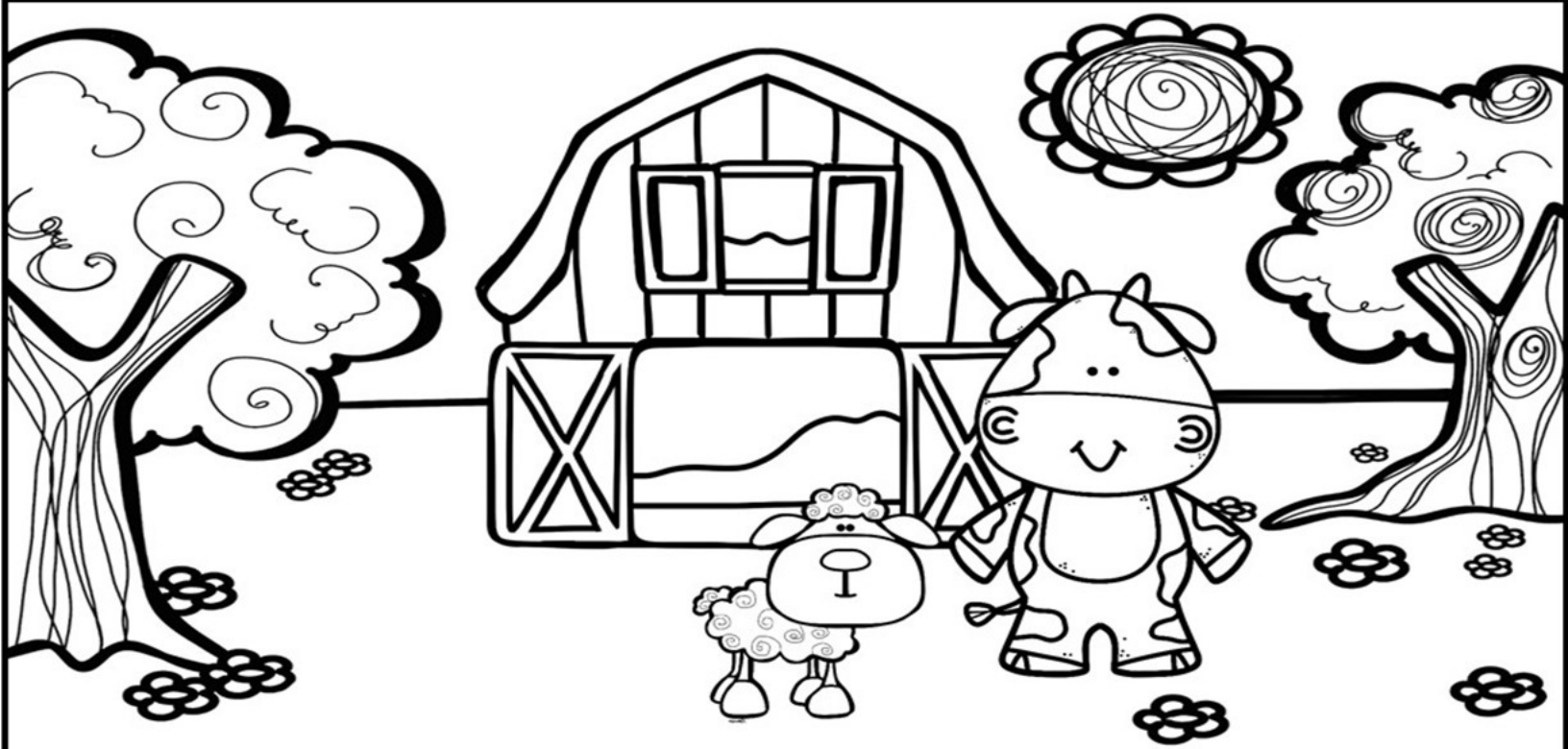


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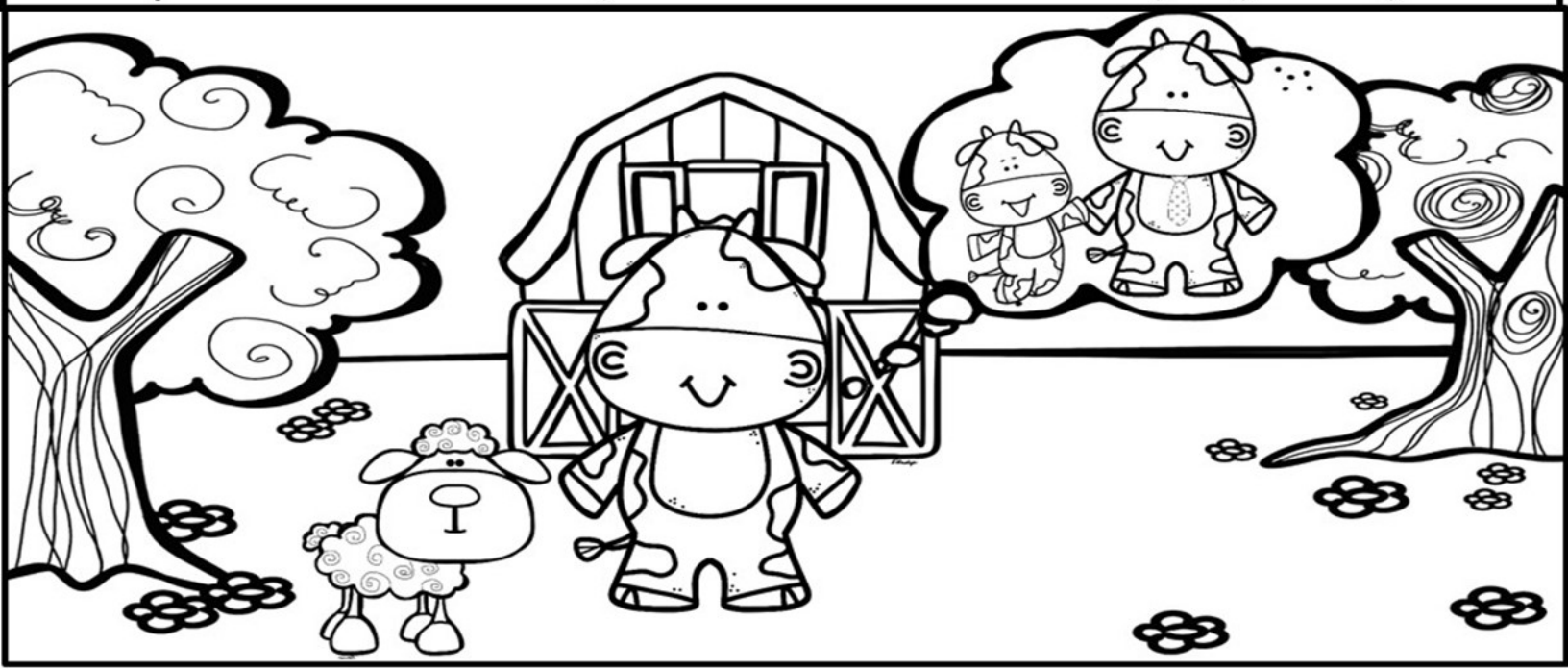




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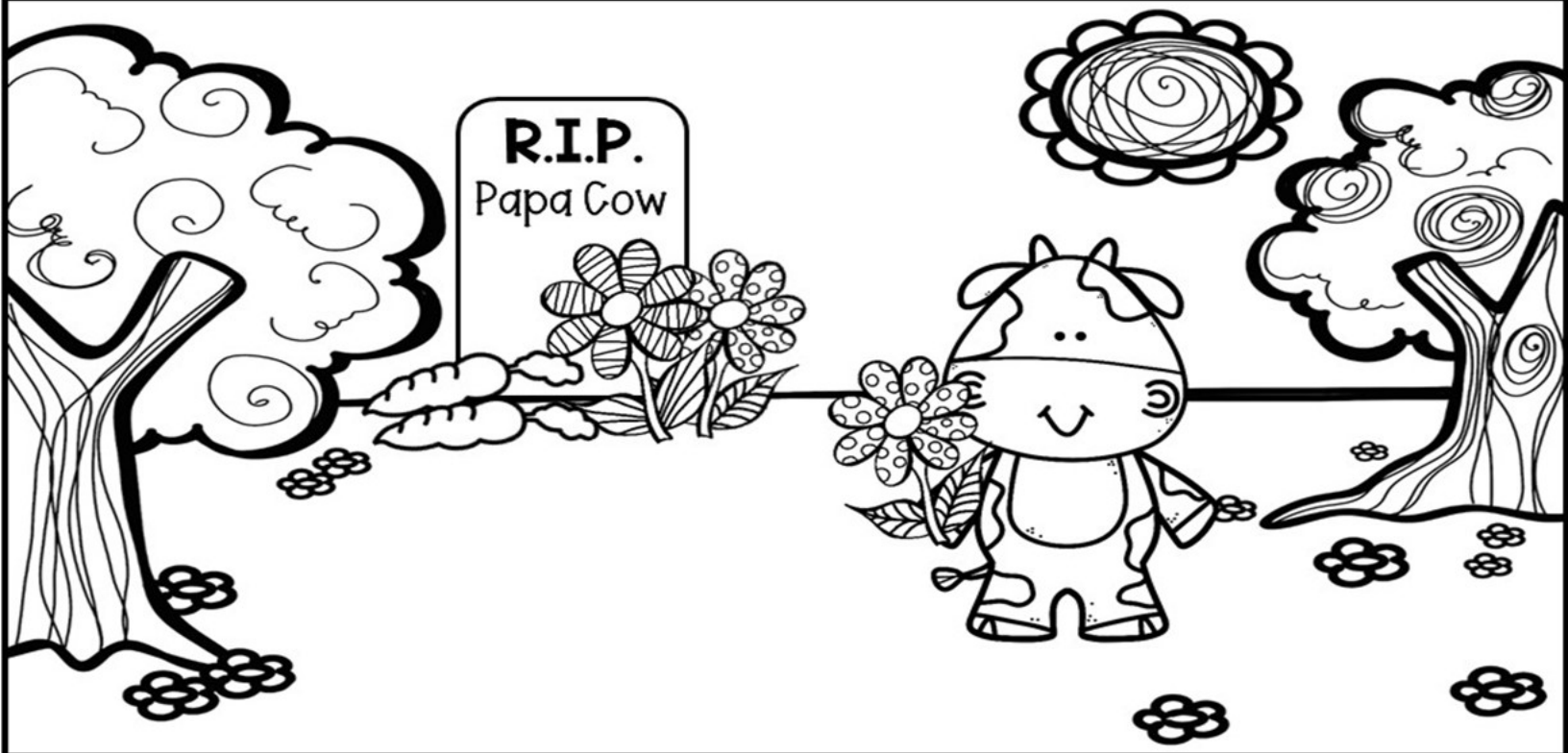


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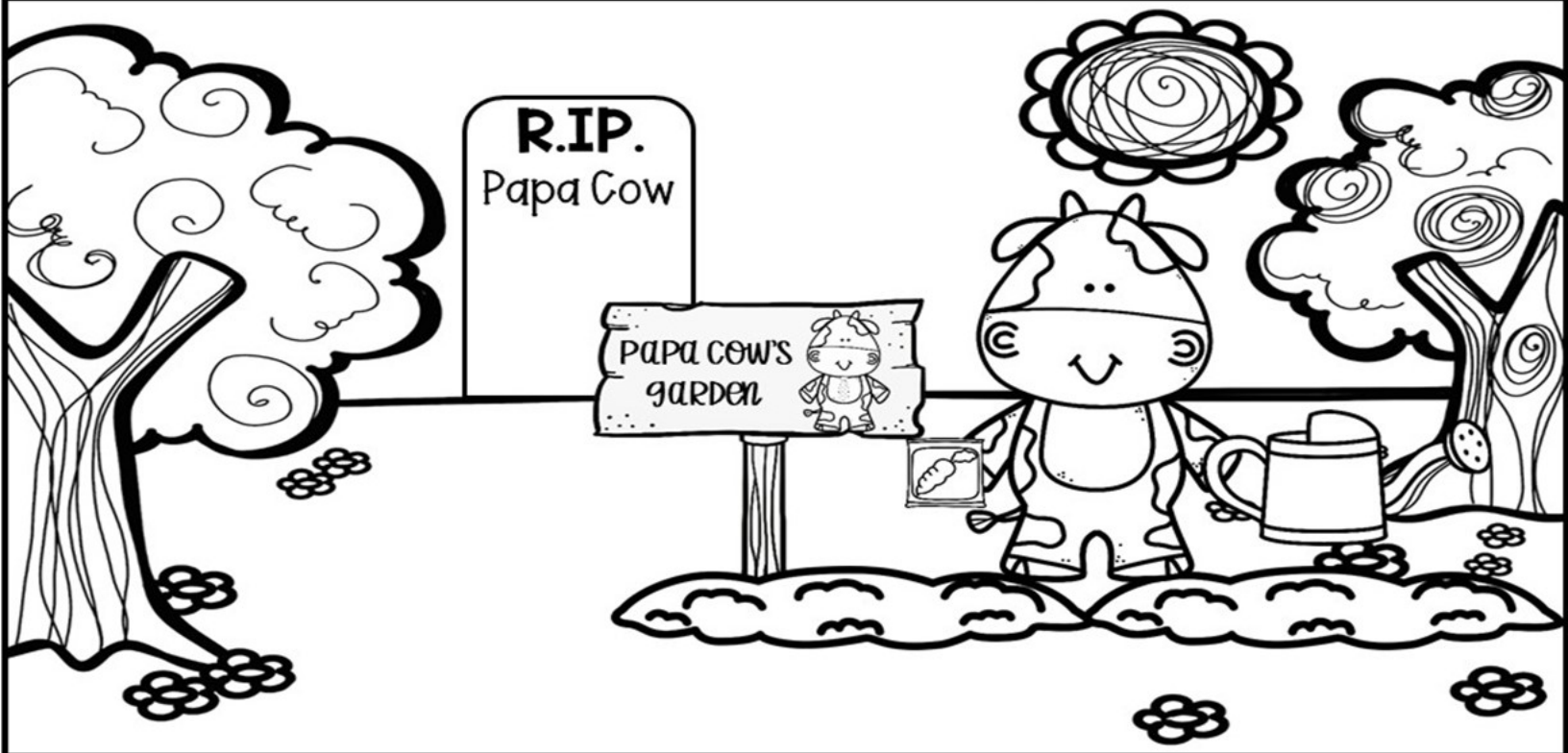




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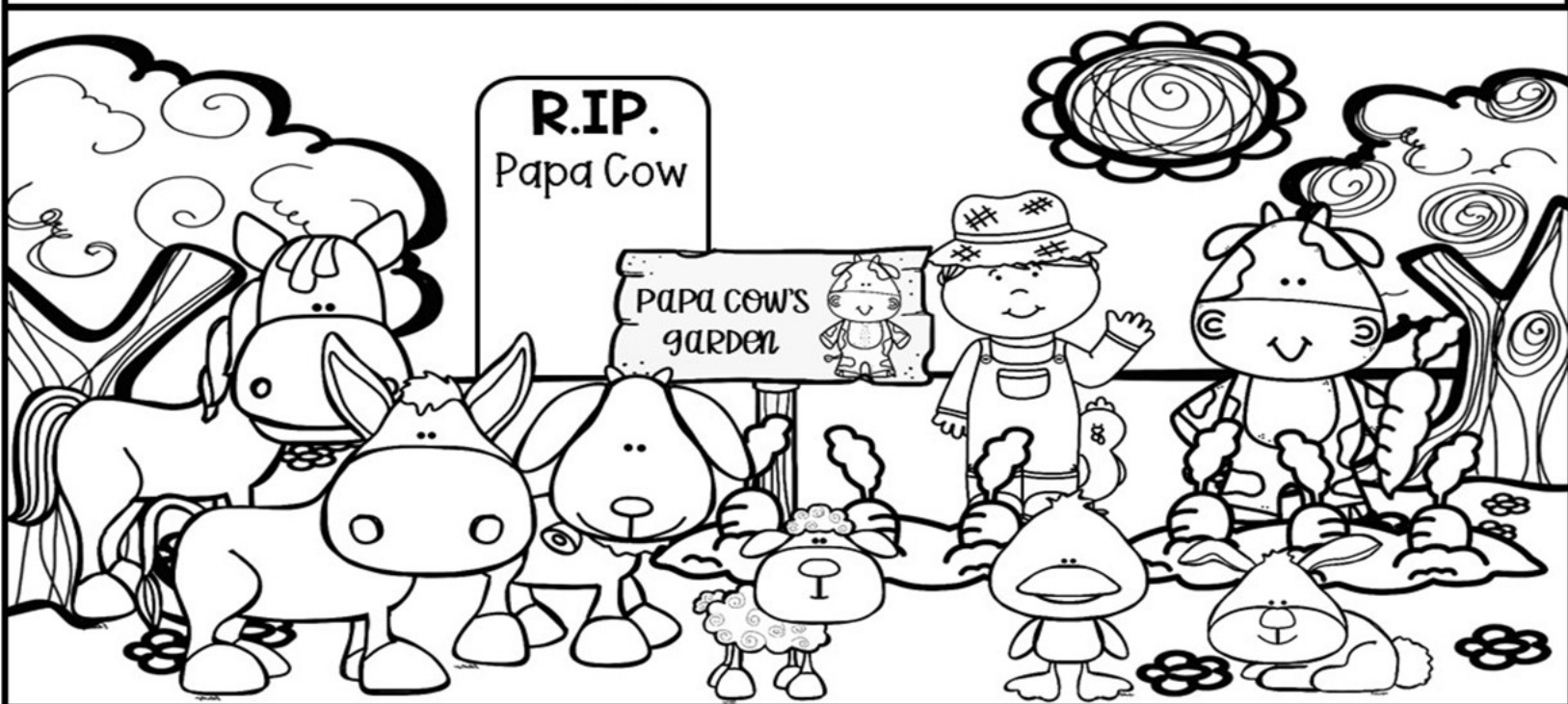


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