

Why Cows do have four Legs

Reg Down
© Copyright 2016

All rights reserved. No part of this publication, in part or in whole may be reproduced, transmitted or utilized in any form, without the written permission of the author, except for brief quotations in critical articles and reviews.

“Silly Willy! Silly Willy!” cried Peekaboo. “Why do cows have four legs?”
“That I can’t tell you,” said Silly Willy. “You wouldn’t understand.”

“Why not?” asked Peekaboo.

“It’s mazy and convoluted,” said Silly Willy. “Your head might burst.”

“It won’t! It won’t!” said Peekaboo. “Please tell me.”

“It’s like this,” said Silly Willy. “Once upon a time cows had only one leg.”

“One leg!” exclaimed Peekaboo.

“Yes,” said Silly Willy. “They hopped about the meadows—bounce, bounce, bounce. It didn’t work very well.”

“Why not?” asked Peekaboo.

“They punched holes in the ground with their hoof,” said Silly Willy, “and their udders shook so much that their milk turned to butter. But that wasn’t the worst of it.”

“What could be worse than that?” asked Peekaboo.

“They fell over when they tried to eat the grass,” said Silly Willy. “As soon as they leaned over the cows fell down. The farmers spent all day picking their cows up. It was a disaster.”

“That sounds terrible,” said Peekaboo. “Then what happened?”

“The cows grew another leg,” said Silly Willy. “One on the back and one on the front.”

“Two legs!” said Peekaboo. “Did that work?”

“Not really,” said Silly Willy. “The cows could eat grass and make milk but they still fell over. Each cow had to have one farmer stand on one side and another farmer on the other side to hold them up. In those days there were twice as many farmers as cows. The meadows were full of farmers holding their cows up. Only at night could they set the cows down. Then they’d go home to bed. Finally one farmer had a clever idea.”

"What was that?" asked Peekaboo.

"He tied two cows together, side by side," said Silly Willy. "That way they held each other up. After a while the two cows melted together and that's why cows have four legs."

"That's brilliant," said Peekaboo. "Who told you this?"

"I worked it out myself," said Silly Willy. "Isn't it obvious? When a cow has brown and white patches that tells you a brown cow and a white cow melted together. The same happened with the black and white ones."

"I never would have thought of that," said Peekaboo.

"Of course not," said Silly Willy. "You have to be brainy like me to know such things."