

DIARY OF A NEW ZEALAND SHEEP

The most popular breed of sheep in New Zealand is known as the Romney. It is a great wool producer and has a particularly fluffy face. Scientists have proven that sheep recognize each other by their faces just like humans do. They are able to remember up to 50 faces including that of the shepherd.

MONDAY

The shepherd and the dogs came to the hills today. They herded us down to a flat paddock. We walked in single file. Ate grass. Walked in single file again. Slept under a tree.



TUESDAY

Woke up early. Walked in single file. Ate grass. Saw the shepherd's house. Saw some little shepherds. They threw me a piece of bread. Very tasty! Walked in single file again. Slept under a tree.



FRIENDS

By Brenda MacDibble
Illustrated by Bob Harper



WEDNESDAY

Woke early. Walked in single file. Ate grass. Saw the little shepherds again. Called to them. They patted me and fed me lots of bread. Very, very tasty! Walked in single file again. Slept under tree.



THURSDAY

Woke early. Went straight to shepherd's house. Called for the little shepherds. The big shepherd came out and threw a gumboot. Tasted terrible! I kept calling until the little shepherds came with the bread. They are much smarter but seemed to have sore eyes.



FRIDAY

Woke early, went straight to shepherd's house. Called for the little shepherds. They came out and tried to play chasey with me. I didn't want to play chasey so kept going back and asking for the bread. Their faces turned a funny red color before they got it for me.

SATURDAY

Woke extra early. Went straight to shepherd's house. Called for the little shepherds. No one came. I couldn't understand it. I thought I had them trained. I scratched my head on a piece of tin by the fence. It made loud noises. The little shepherds came out rubbing their eyes. They made low grumbling noises as they fed me the bread.



SUNDAY

Woke early. Surprised to see the big shepherd and his dogs already awake. They moved the flock back up to the hill paddock. I tried to tell him it was too far for the little shepherds to hear me but he couldn't understand. He tried to make me taste his gumboot again. They'll never hear me now and we were getting to be such good friends!

BYE

