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Display

THE LITTLE COWBOY

(The cowboys come in singing, herding the cattle.)

ALL COWBOYS I was born under a wandering star
I was born under a wandering star
We have to set our camp
A nice place we will seek
We've had a long hard day
And now we're going to get some sleep
I was born under a wandering star
A wandering, wandering star.

NARRATOR All of the cowboys had had a long hard day, they had ridden for many miles, rounding up cattle for branding. They were very glad that it was time to make camp.

As the cattle grazed nearby, the cowboys settled around the campfire.

COWBOY 1 It sure is swell to get all those cattle branded.

COWBOY 2 Yeah, you're right.

COWBOY 3 Gee, it sure has been a long, hard day.

NARRATOR But as darkness descended, they knew that one of them must go and stand guard over the herd.

COWBOY 4 Well I'm not do'in it, I'm the boss.

COWBOY 5 Well I'm not do'in it, I'm the strongest.

COWBOY 6 Well I'm not do'in it, I'm the biggest.

NARRATOR And so it went on, until there was only the youngest one left - Hank, the tiniest cowboy!

**ALL COWBOYS
EXCEPT HANK** Gee, it looks like you've got the job.

NARRATOR

Hank was very cross, he didn't want to leave the warmth of the campfire or miss all the stories that the others were telling.

But he had no choice-

(Hank has his head down and looks miserable).

So off he went into the darkness and sat down not far from the grazing herd.

He could see the warm glow of the fire and hear the distant murmur of the cowboys

And he became more and more bored:

He tried counting stars:-

HANK

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6....

NARRATOR

But that only made him sleepy.

So he thought that for some excitement he would play a joke on the other cowboys.

He waited until everything was very quiet.

And then...

HANK

Indians! Indians! *(Shouting).*

NARRATOR

Hearing Hank cry out, the others picked up their rifles and guns and ran to help.

But when they arrived they saw no Indians.

Only Hank, doubled up with laughter.

HANK

I fooled you, I fooled you! *(Laughing all the time).*

NARRATOR

The cowboys thought that this was a very bad joke.

COWBOY 7

You call that a joke!

COWBOY 8

We sure don't think that was funny!

NARRATOR The cowboys went back to their camp and settled down for the night. *(Under blankets).*

And Hank went back to counting stars.

HANK 101, 102, 103, 104.....

NARRATOR Everything was peaceful, the only sound was the snoring of the cowboys.

When suddenly...

HANK Indians! Indians! Indians!

NARRATOR The cowboys leapt from under their blankets.

And grabbing their rifles and guns they ran to help .

But once again they found no Indians.

Only the Hank, and he was rolling around on the ground laughing.

HANK I fooled you again. *(Laughing).*

The cowboys by now were so angry and tired that they just turned around, and shaking their heads in disgust, they went back to their camp.

COWBOY 9 That dumb kid.

NARRATOR They had no sooner left, when what do you think Hank saw...?

Creeping out from behind nearby rocks and trees.....

HANK Indians! Indians!

NARRATOR But the cowboys only smiled as they settled down for the night.

COWBOY 1 This is a smart guy we've got here.

HANK Indians! Indians!

COWBOY 2 Yeah, he's trying to trick us again.

HANK

Indians! Indians!

COWBOY 3

But he won't pull a smart move on us.

NARRATOR

And once again their snoring echoed out into the night.

Finally Hank stopped shouting.

He knew that the cowboys wouldn't come.

He knew that they didn't believe him.

All he could do was hide behind a nearby rock while the Indians stole all of the cattle.

(The Indians and the cattle move off-stage).

It was a very miserable little cowboy who walked back to the camp later on.

But at least he had learnt a valuable lesson.....

People who tell lies are seldom believed when they do tell the truth.

(Everyone comes back to the centre of the hall).

EVERYONE

I was born under a wandering star
I was born under a wandering star
We have learnt our lesson
Never tell a lie
Always tell the truth
So now we'll have to say goodbye
I was born under a wandering star
A wandering, wandering star.

THE END