

## Story 2 Cut one tree – plant three!

Fox, rat and squirrel are best friends. They have their homes in the same Oak tree.

Squirrel has his home inside a large branch, high above the ground.

Fox lives in a dark burrow under the tree, among the roots

Rat lives at the bottom of the big trunk with his family.

One day, there was a disaster. The animals came home and the Oak tree was lying on the ground. There were men everywhere. They were driving huge machines.

Noisy yellow trucks. Tall, red cranes and big, blue bulldozers. They were cutting the beautiful oak tree into small pieces.

The 3 animals hid behind some rocks. 'What can we do?', asked Squirrel. 'They have cut down our tree. We have lost our homes'.

'I have an idea', said Fox. 'I have sharp claws. I can cut a root from the tree. We can plant it and it will grow'.

Then Rat said, 'I have sharp teeth. I can cut a branch from the tree. We can plant it and it will grow'.

And Squirrel said, 'I have good eyes. I can find an acorn from the tree. We can plant it and it will grow'.

So the 3 friends collected a root, a branch and an acorn. They planted them in a new place far, far away from the men and the machines.

All summer, autumn and winter, they watered the soil and took care of the root and branch and acorn. The next spring – there were three new, young trees. The friends were very excited. 'We'll soon have THREE new homes', said Squirrel.

The news of the trees spread throughout the country. Now, there is a big sign at the entrance of the forest: *Cut one tree – plant three.*