

Maya the Thankful Girl

There was once a girl called Maya, who lived in a place that was very cold in the winter. Maya had used the same coat every winter for many years, and it was worn out and too small. Everyone could see that Maya needed a new coat before the winter came again, but her family did not have enough money to buy one.

A farmer who lived down the road from Maya's home told her she could have some wool from his sheep to make a new coat. He said she would have to wait until the spring when the wool would be thick and ready to shear. Maya wanted to show her thankfulness, so, as she waited for the spring, she helped the farmer by happily tending the sheep for a while each day. She fed them hay and fruits, patted them and even sang to them!

In the spring, the farmer sheared the wool and gave it to Maya. He showed her how to make it smooth and ready for spinning. Maya thanked him and began to walk home. An old woman who lived next door saw Maya with the wool and offered to spin it into thread for her. Maya was very grateful and wanted to find a way to thank the old woman. She could see many vegetables growing in the old woman's garden, so all through the summer, she picked the vegetables and washed them and made them ready for the old woman to cook.

When the thread was ready, Maya picked some red berries and dyed it all red. Then she visited the weaver and explained that she needed help to make the thread into cloth. The kind weaver was happy to make the cloth. To show her thankfulness, while the weaver was busy making a lovely red cloth from the thread, each afternoon Maya cleaned and tidied the weaver's workshop.