

## Activity2

**Can you tell what these proverbs mean?**

**SJE:** Standard Jamaican English

1. Chicken merry, hawk deh near (SJE: The chicken is happy but is unaware that a hawk is close by)

Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Yu cyaan siddung pahn cow bak cut cow tail (SJE: You should not be sitting on cow's back while cutting its tail)

Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

3. If yu nuh mash ants, yu nuh fine him guts (SJE: If an ant is not crushed you will not see its inside)

Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Answers:

1. *Danger can lurk in some of the most unexpected places and as such even during our happiest moments we should be careful.*
2. *You should not be ungrateful or cruel to persons who you depend on for favours.*
3. *If someone is not provoked they will not show the extent of their wrath / only when you are closely involved with someone will they reveal their true self to you.*