Larry the Singing Chicken

by Claire Daniel
illustrated by Paulette Bogan

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HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT
School Publishers

🔊 Rose was the boss of the henhouse.
She counted the eggs every day,
and she told everyone what to do.
One day she found a strange egg.

🔊 Henhouse
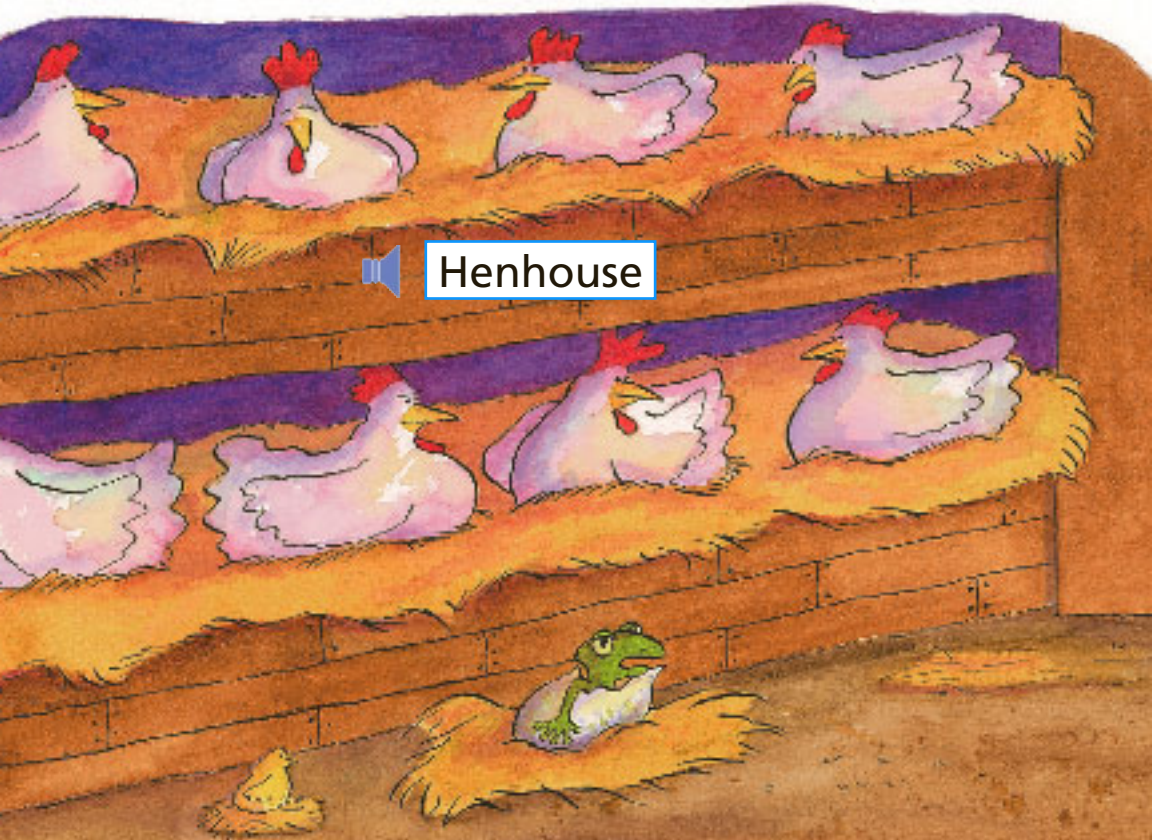
🔊 "Who dropped an egg?"
she asked.
No one said anything.
🔊 Then the egg began to move.
It cracked open,
and a green arm reached out.
Out came Larry.

🔊 Rose

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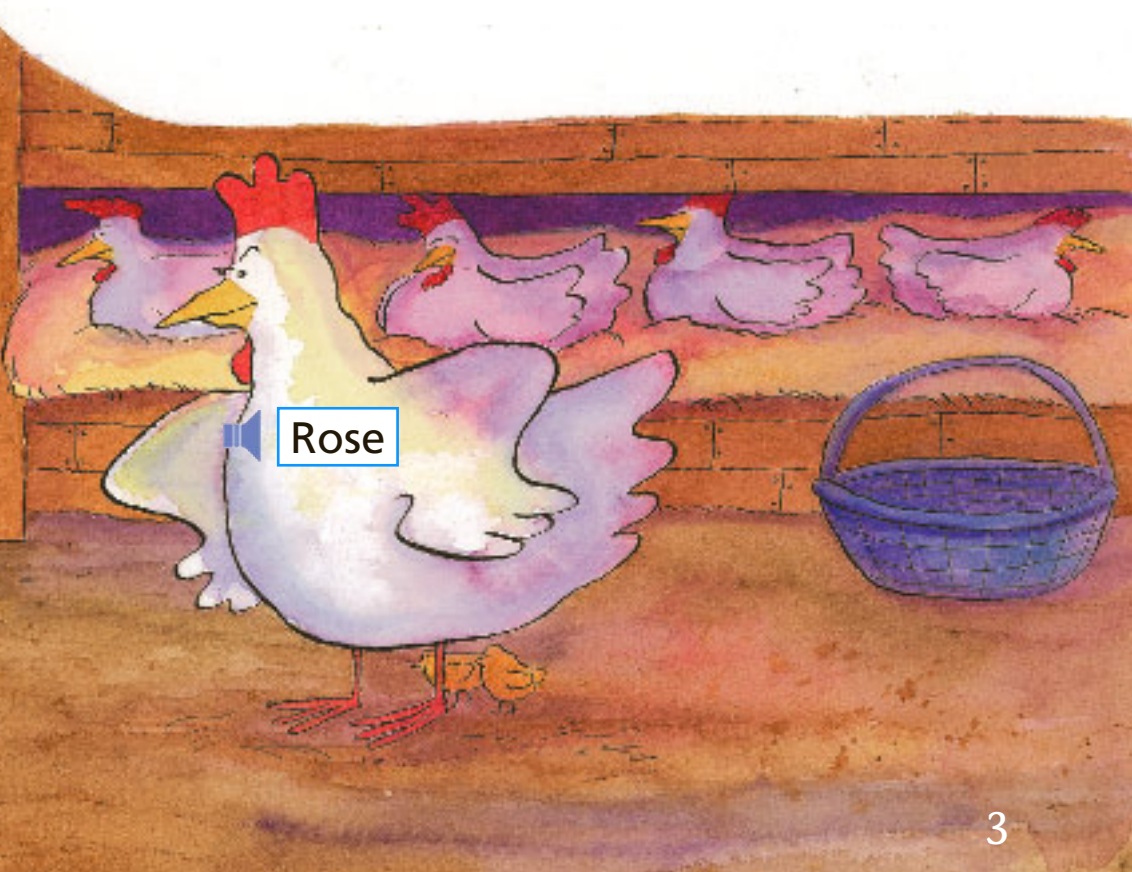
🔊 Larry was happy to be out of his shell, but he was ==confused==.

🔊 The hens looked strange to him. He looked at their feathers.

🔊 He looked at his own green hands and feet.

"You're a chicken!" Rose said.

"Am I?" Larry asked.

🔊 Larry

Rose told Larry to sit in a nest.
She said, "You must take your seat.
We lay eggs here."

Larry didn't know anything about
laying eggs, so he started singing.

All the hens clapped.
They had never heard a chicken
sing before.

Nest
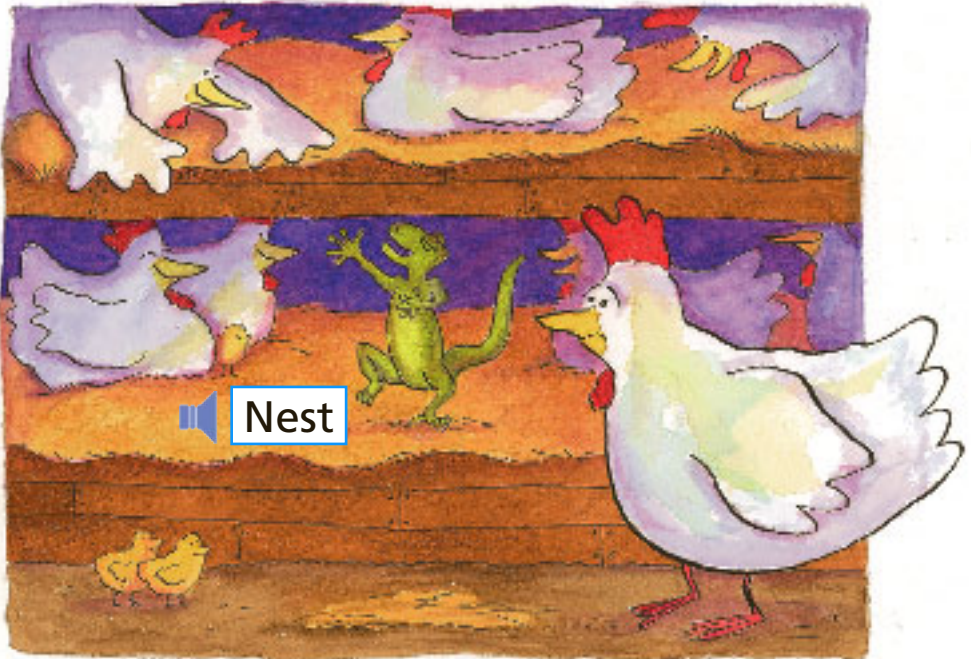
🔊 "No singing!" Rose said.
"Chickens, you are out of control!"

🔊 All the hens booed at Rose.
They said, "We like this chicken!
Let it sing!"
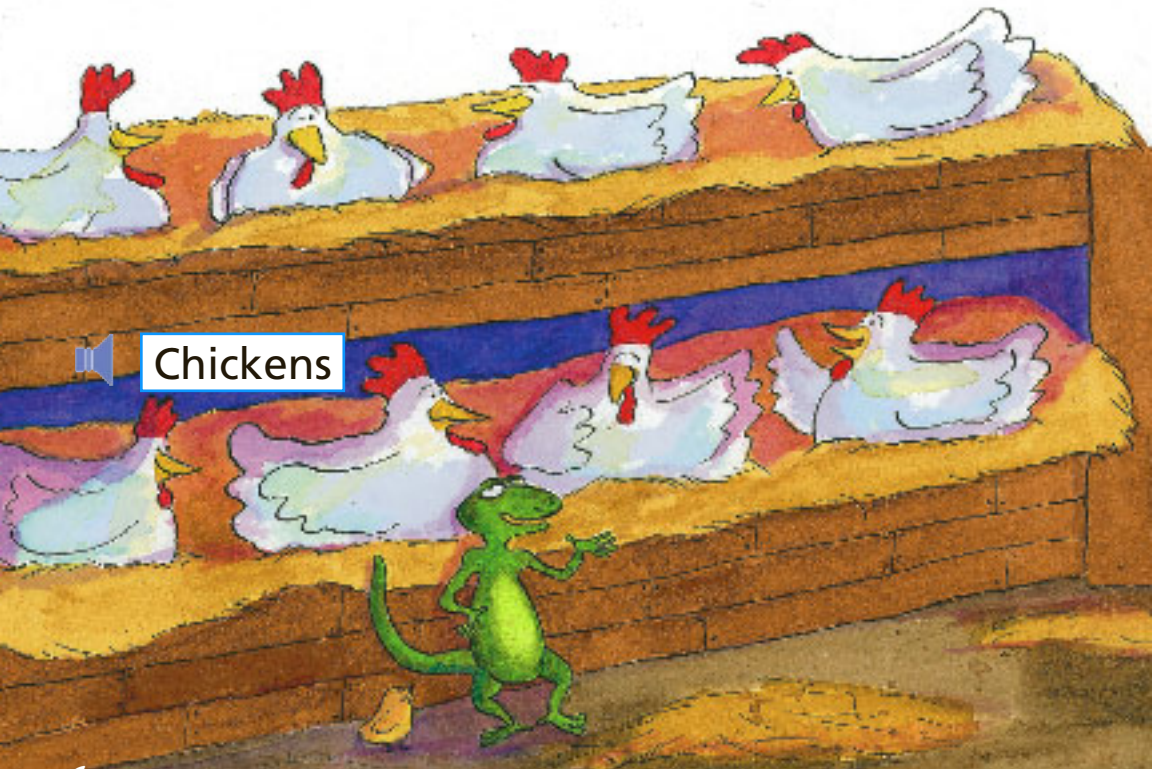"Thank you!" Larry said.
"Now I have a joke to tell you."

🔊 Chickens

"There's no time for jokes!"
Rose said.

Larry said, "Why did the chicken
cross the road?"

The hens were quiet.
They tried to think of an answer.

"To get to the other side!"
said Larry.
All of the hens laughed.

🔊 Now Rose was really <mark>upset</mark>.
She said, "That's not even a
good joke!"

🔊 Larry said, "Why did the chicken
throw the clock out of the window?"

🔊 None of the hens could think of
a reason.

🔊 Larry said, "To see time fly!"
The hens laughed even more.

🔊 Window

🔊 Clock

Rose didn't like Larry's jokes.
She said, "Out you go,
or I'll put you in a cage!"
"No, wait!" a small hen said.
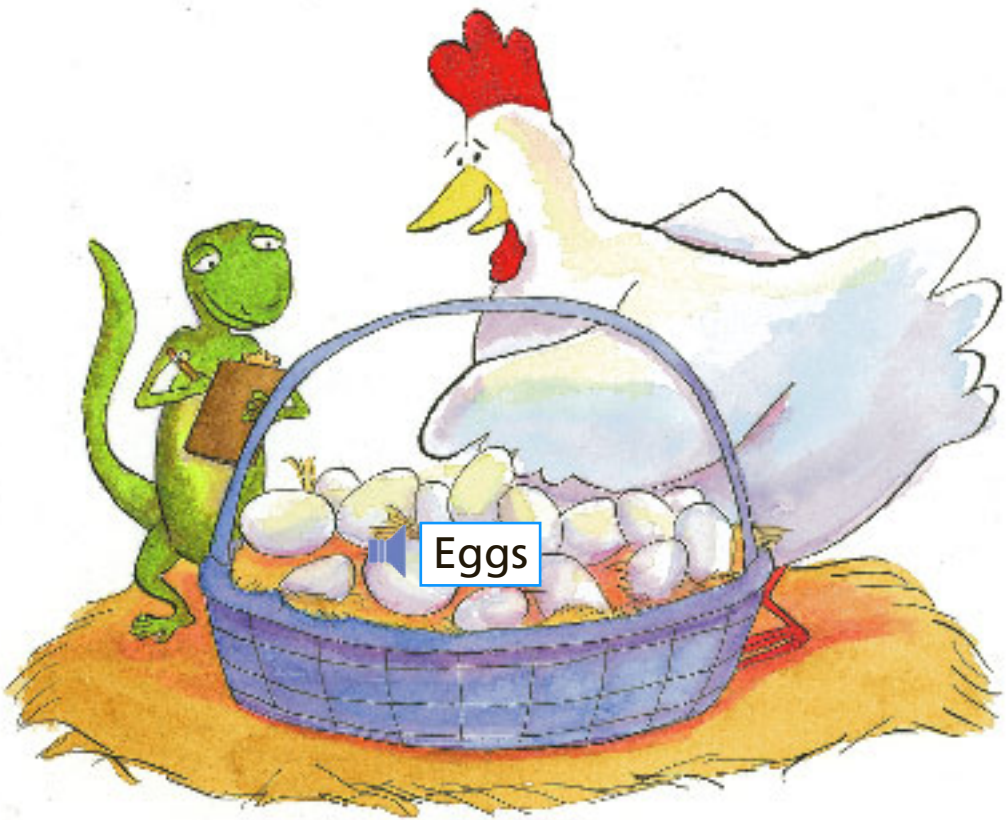"Let Larry stay. Look!
Laughing helps us lay
more eggs."

Rose counted the eggs.
There were more eggs than ever!
Rose said, "I've never met a chicken like you before.
You can stay, but can you please tell some funnier jokes?"

Eggs

Responding

TARGET SKILL **Story Structure** Who are the main characters in the story? Where does this story happen? What happens in the story? Write your answers in the chart below.

Characters	Setting
Larry, Rose, the other hens	?
What Happens Larry hatches in the henhouse. ?	

Write About It

Text to Text Think of another story about an animal that hatches from an egg. Use two or three sentences to write a response paragraph about the animal. Include details about the animal. What did it look like? Was it a surprising animal, like Larry?

cage	sensible
confused	suspiciously
control	training
ordinary	upset

✔ **TARGET SKILL** **Story Structure** Tell the setting, character, and plot in a story.

✔ **TARGET STRATEGY** **Infer/Predict** Use clues to figure out more about story parts.

GENRE A **fantasy** is a story that could not happen in real life.

Level: J

DRA: 18

Genre:
Fantasy

Strategy:
Infer/Predict

Skill:
Story Structure

Word Count: 333

2.6.26