

Millie's Chickens

A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

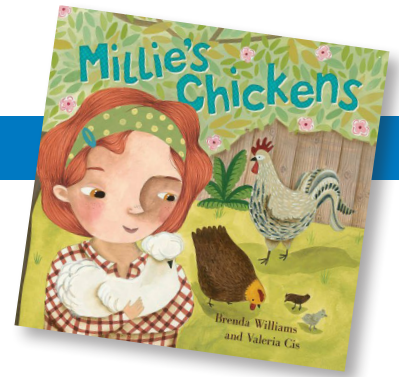
Themes: Life Cycles, Pet Care, Responsibility

Book Brief: From the first cock-a-doodle-doo at dawn to making sure the chicken coop is safe from predators at night, Millie shows readers how she takes care of her three hens, one rooster, and seven chicks.

Author:
Brenda Williams

Illustrator:
Valeria Cis

Content Connections:
Science, Social Studies



TIME TO READ!



BEFORE WE READ, LET'S LOOK AT...

The Cover: What can you tell about the setting of this story from the cover picture? Who is Millie? What is the girl on the cover holding?

The Pictures: Flip briefly through the pages. Based

on the pictures, what can you tell about the daily routine of taking care of a chicken? Ask students to list some of the steps.

Prior Knowledge: What facts do students already

know about chickens? What are some of the differences between roosters and hens? Do any students in the class own farm animals like chickens or goats? Ask for volunteers to explain how their families take care of and use these animals. Do any students own more conventional pets? Ask for volunteers to explain their responsibilities helping to care for the family pet.

Vocabulary: rooster, chick, membrane, yolk, albumin, breed

Purpose for Reading: Today, we're going to compare how people care for chickens and how people care for other types of household pets.

WHILE WE READ

MONITORING COMPREHENSION

- ◆ What do you notice about the chickens' habitat?
- ◆ Where is Silkie hiding?
- ◆ How long do you think it takes a chick to hatch? (21 days)
- ◆ What do you notice about the colors of the rooster compared the colors of the hens?

- ◆ What other animals might be predators of chickens?
- ◆ Why are the chickens safe to roam during the day?
- ◆ If you eat eggs, what is your favorite way to eat them?



LET'S THINK ABOUT

Our Purpose: How does taking care of chickens compare to taking care of another type of household pet? Make a chart or a Venn diagram on the board to show the similarities and differences between caring for a chicken and at least two other common pets.

Extending Our Thinking: What benefits would come from keeping chickens? What might be drawbacks? Discuss the question as a class. With a partner, list how many animals you can think of that hatch from eggs. Can you think of any other kinds of eggs besides chicken eggs that people eat?

NOTE TO EDUCATORS

- ◆ Extension Activities for Educators also available.
- ◆ Vocabulary Scaffolding Sheet also available.



Reading Is
Fundamental