

# Millie's Chickens

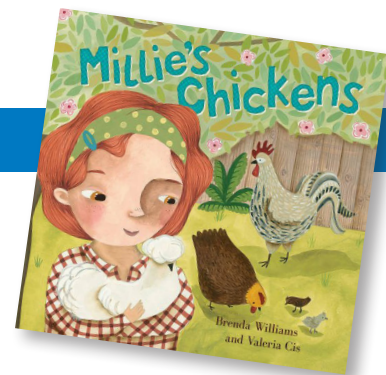
## A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

**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



## TIME TO READ!



**Before reading, make predictions:** Where do you think Millie lives? Why? What type of home do you think Millie's chickens will have?

**While reading, look for patterns:** What does the rooster do each day? What sequence of events does Millie do daily? What would

happen if her routine were disrupted? How could this be bad for the chickens? What is your daily routine

like? Does it have anything in common with Millie's?

**After reading, ask questions:**

- ◆ Why do you think Millie decided to keep chickens in her backyard instead of a dog?
- ◆ What would be a benefit of keeping chickens?
- ◆ Do you think chickens would take more or less work to keep than other types of pets? Explain your answer.
- ◆ Would you ever want to keep chickens?



## RELATED ACTIVITIES

### EGGS IN A BASKET

Ingredients: bread, butter, egg

Butter a slice of bread on both sides. Cut a small hole in the middle of the slice. With an adult's help, place the bread in a hot skillet. Crack the egg into the hole in the middle of the bread and let it cook for a minute. Carefully flip the bread and egg over to cook a little longer. Remove from skillet and enjoy!

### EGG-CELLENT DESIGNS

Materials: hard boiled eggs, crayons, food coloring, white vinegar, cups, spoons, paper towels

Look up Pysanky eggs online. This is a traditional Ukrainian way of decorating eggs with designs using wax and dyes. Create your own design on a hard boiled egg using crayons. Then, dip the egg in a

mixture of white vinegar and food coloring. Let the egg dry before touching it. To make the egg last longer, store it in a cool place for longer enjoyment.

### CURIOUS COUSINS

Did you know that scientists believe the chicken is the closet living relative of the Tyrannosaurus Rex? Are you surprised? How would you compare the two? What do you think makes them similar? Go outside and observe animals in your area. For every animal you see, try to think of at least one other animal, either extinct or still living, that the animal might be related or similar to. When you get back inside, look online to see if your guesses are correct.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



### OTHER BOOKS ABOUT EGGS

- I Hatched!*, Jill Esbaum (2014)  
*What Will Hatch?*, Jennifer Ward (2013)  
*Chickens Aren't the Only Ones*, Ruth Heller (1999)



Reading Is Fundamental