



The duckchick

Mama hen had a problem. Things began to go wrong in the spring, when she was sitting in her nest on her six eggs. Egg 6 was very big. Mama hen sat on it a lot, and went 'cluck' at it, but she felt a bit upset that it was so big. Eggs 1 – 5 began to hatch. The soft fluffy chicks (Sam and Chip and Dan and Ben and Mag) pecked and pecked at the shells until they went crack. Then, with a very big cccc-r-a-ck, egg 6 hatched as well. But this chick was a duckchick!

"Cluck!" went Mama hen, shocked. "Cluck!" went Sam, and Chip, and Dan, and Ben, and Mag. "Quack!" went the duckchick.

Mama hen and the chicks went to the pond. Mama hen and Sam and Chip and Dan and Ben and Mag pecked up lots of grubs in the mud. The duckchick flapped his long wings, stretched his long neck and "Splash!" jumped into the pond. He pecked up some crusts.

"Cluck!" went Mama hen, shocked. "Cluck!" went Sam, and Chip, and Dan, and Ben, and Mag. "Quack!" went the duckchick.

Mama hen humped on a log. Sam and Chip and Dan and Ben and Mag jumped up as well. They hopped along the log. But a fox was watching them. When Mama hen saw it she went

"Cluck! Cluck! Cluck!" and all the chicks fell in the pond!

"Help!" went the chicks.

Quick as a flash, the duckchick swam across to them.

He grabbed Sam by his leg and swam with him to the bank.

Then Chip, and Dan, and Ben, and Mag.

"Cluck!" went Mama hen. "Thanks, duckchick!"

"Quack!" went the duckchick. "Quack, quack!"

Green words

Read in Fred Talk (pure sounds).

egg well quick spring quack nest cluck long
them hatch fell Mama wrong

Read in syllables.

prob'lem → problem duck'chick → duck chick
a'long → along a'cross → across
ve'ry → very

Read the root word first and then with the ending.

thing → things wing → wings
sit → sitting peck → pecked
stretch → stretched shock → shocked
hatch → hatched fluff → fluffy

Red words

one saw her to go the
all was some she be he they watch