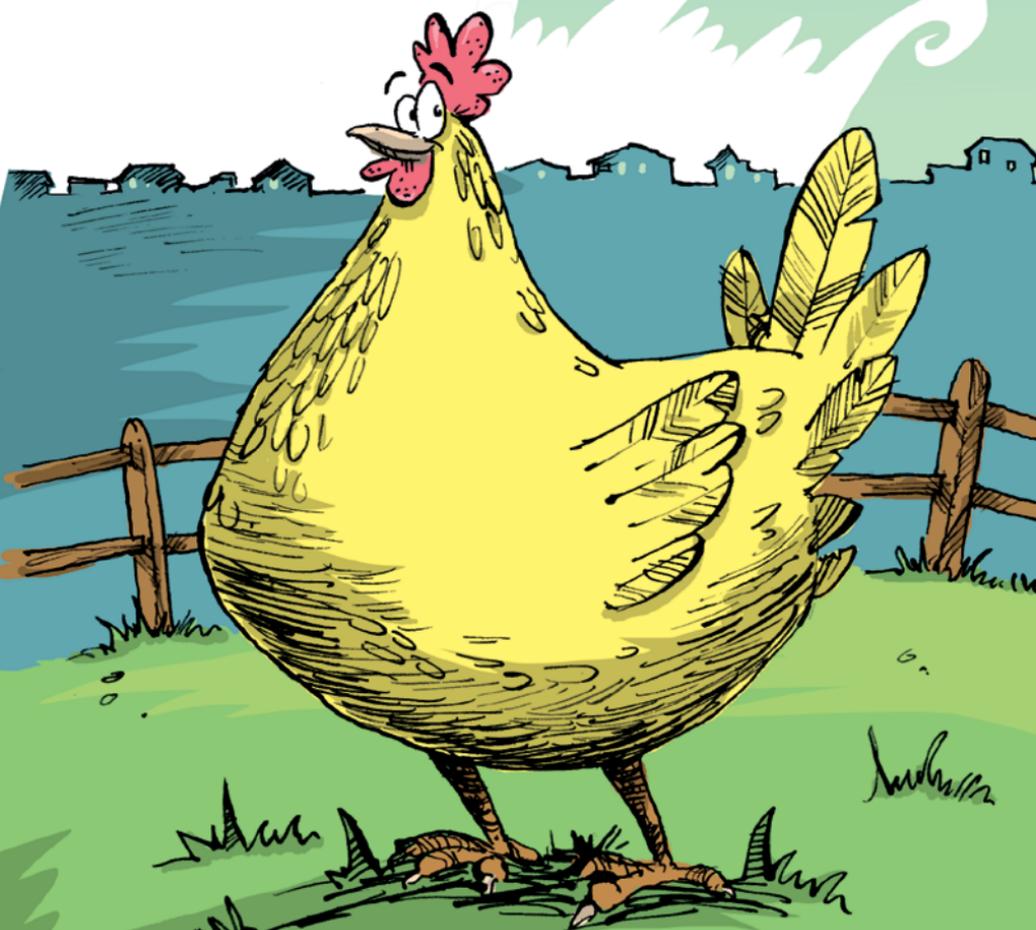


Buttercup's Eggcellent Adventure



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For Review Only

CHAPTER ONE



The Beginning

Six eggs were huddled next to each other in a nest box. They had been there for many weeks, and they were starting to get bored.

“Can you hear me?” one of them called out.

“Yes! I can hear you,” another replied excitedly.

The six eggs chatted together, wondering where their new homes would be.

“I hope I live on a farm,” one said.

“I want to live in a castle!” another chimed in.

“I want to live by the sea!” a third one added.

One day before they hatched, the eggs were moved to their new homes. Four of the eggs went to a chicken coop in a large yard. The fifth went to a different spot in the yard.

The sixth egg had an immediate adventure. A family named Irving bought it, along with 11 other eggs in a basket. At the Irvings’ home, the

sixth egg rolled down the driveway and under a bush!

The chick spent her last night in a shell under the bush in the front yard. The next morning, she pipped through her shell, a downy ball of yellow fluff. She looked around, wondering where she was.

Like all chickens, she could start walking almost right away. And walk she did. She walked all the way down Darcy Avenue and stopped at a house on Saticoy Street.

The little chick was very tired. She saw a pretty ivy-covered gazebo surrounded by rose bushes. “This seems like a good place to take a nap,” she yawned, settling under some white roses. A few hours later, the refreshed chick awoke and decided to explore her surroundings.

The chick saw an herb garden near the rose bushes. “Those might be some tasty treats,” she thought, but she wasn’t hungry yet. Baby chicks don’t eat for their first couple of days of life outside the shell. When a chick hatches, there is a bit of reserve yolk left that the chick eats.

She *was* thirsty, though, and went looking for water. She soon found some water in a bowl—and the dog it belonged to!

“Hey, what do you think you’re doing?” asked a large white dog with an egg-shaped head. “That’s *my* water bowl. It even has my name on it. See? *O-X-F-O-R-D.*”

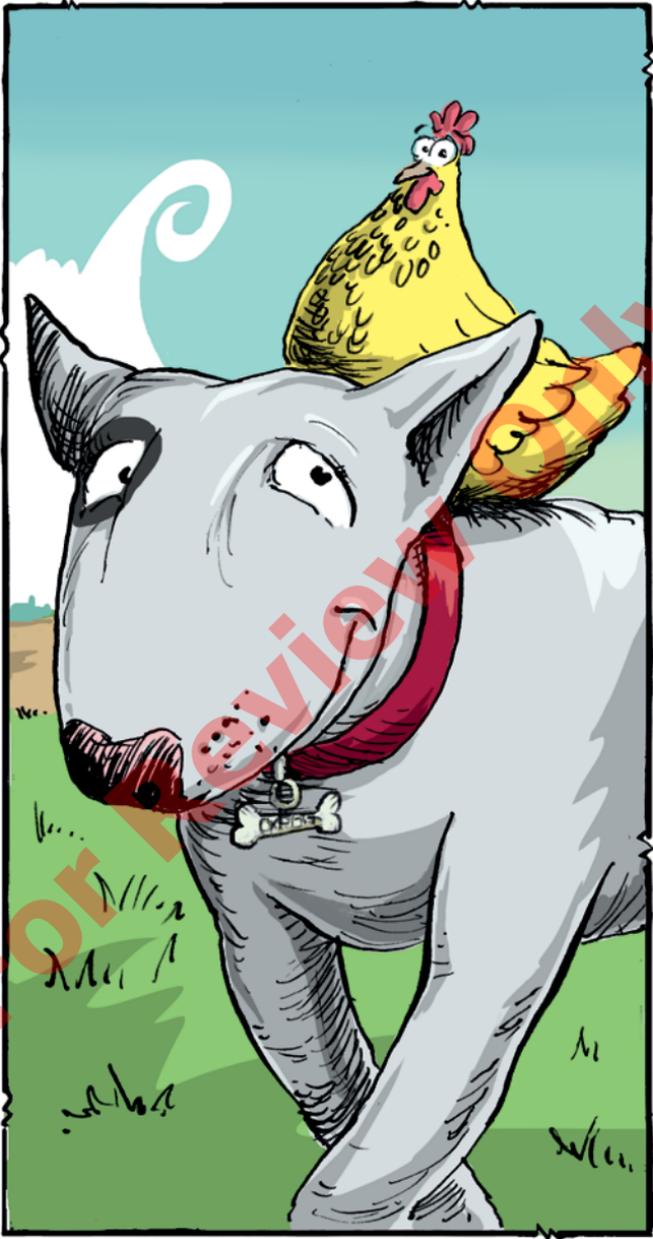
The chick froze in fear. Before she could respond, she saw something even bigger come into the yard.

“Oxford, what are you looking

at?” Susan Emily asked. “Oh my! A little chickie boo. Where did you come from? You’re like a lovely little buttercup.”

Susan Emily brought newly named Buttercup inside. “I’ll get you some food and water,” she said. “Oh, and a place to be cozy.”





Book Club Questions

1. What do you know about how chickens live?
2. Do you know other animals, like Oxford and Buttercup, that make unlikely friends?
3. Buttercup adjusts to life on a farm. What adjustments have you made in life?
4. What are some similarities and differences between chickens and tortoises?
5. What does family mean to you? Does it mean the same thing to Buttercup? Why or why not?
6. Do you think Buttercup makes the right decision at the end of the story? Why or why not?