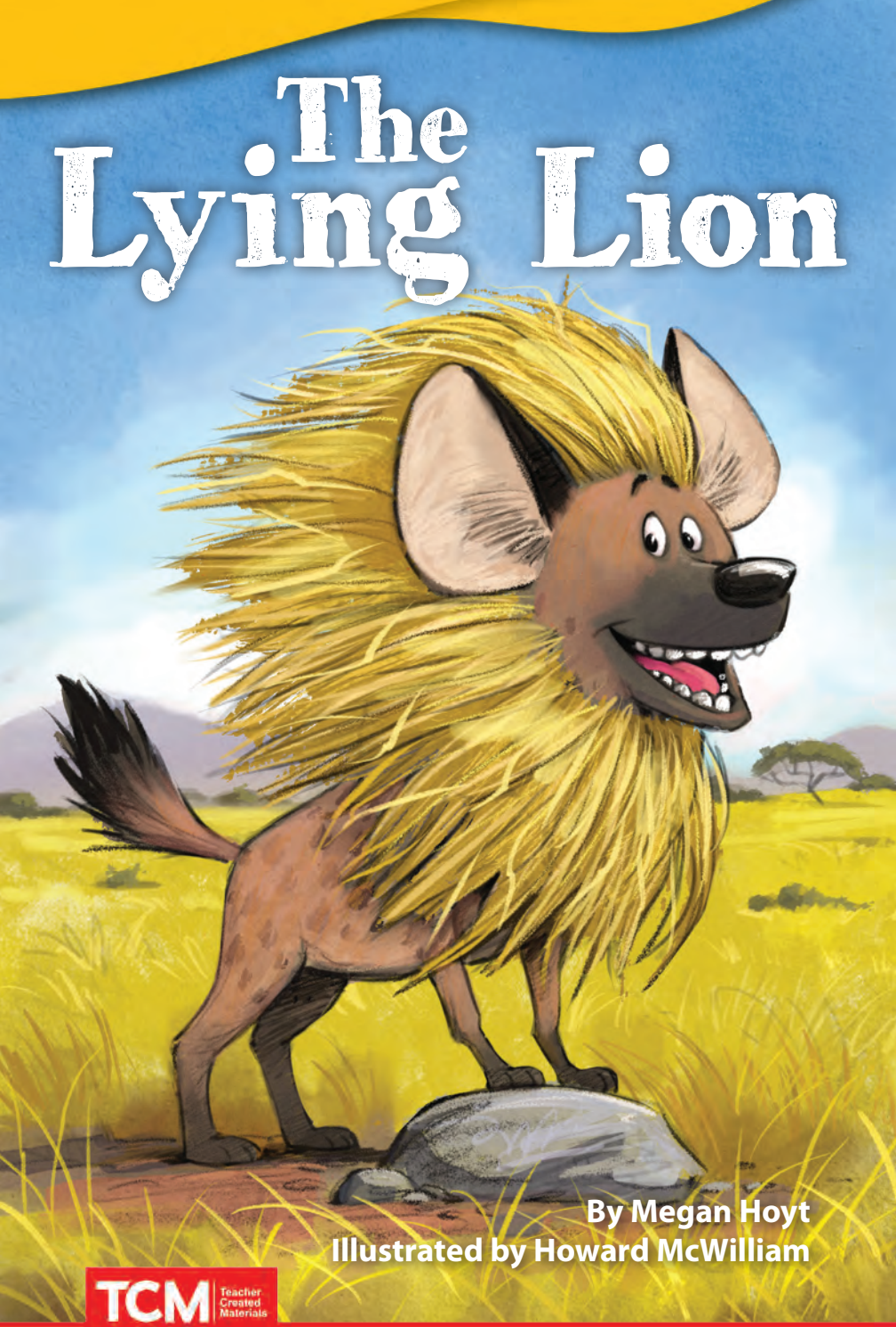
The Lying Lion



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TCM Teacher Created Materials

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Chapter 1

Bugs for Breakfast

Henry Hyena stepped out of his dark, cozy den and into bright sunlight for the first time. He blinked and yawned and stretched. The world was so big!

His sisters scurried out in a crowded pack, leaving a trail of dust. It made Henry cough and sputter.

"Time for breakfast!" Mother said.

"Beetles, grubs, and flies?" Henry asked.

His sisters gobbled up the tasty bugs. But Henry just stared at his food, longing for something to really sink his teeth into.

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He gazed at the horizon and could see a pride of lions chomping on thick, juicy meat.

"Yum!" Henry said.

"I'm glad you're enjoying your first big breakfast, Henry," Mother said, smiling.

Henry tore his eyes away from the pride. He gave his mother a small smile. He wanted her to know he was grateful for the breakfast she had prepared. But he would have much rather been eating meat.



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Playtime with his sisters was nothing but games and giggles. But Henry wanted to do something wilder.

Henry wanted to rumble. He wanted to wrestle and run and ramble across the savanna. His sisters didn't, and they were happy to have fun without Henry. He felt lonely and sad. He couldn't get the lions he saw earlier out of his mind.

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I know! Henry thought to himself. *If I smear this dust on my spots to hide them and make a mane out of these prickly weeds, I'll look just like a lion.*

He laughed a high, shrill, piercing laugh. It was the kind of laugh only a happy, young hyena can make. Henry felt very giddy now and very powerful, like a lion!

Suddenly, he was surrounded by his silly sisters with their perfect spots and smooth fur. They laughed hysterically at Henry.

"You sounded like a foghorn!" one sister exclaimed.

"No, it was more like an elephant!" another shouted.

Henry clutched the dry, cracked weeds tightly in his paw and let out a mournful howl. *Tomorrow, I will become a lion*, he thought.

For Review Only

The Lying Lion

Henry Hyena wants to find his place in the world. But who wants to be a silly little hyena? He decides he wants to be a lion. He wants amazing pouncing skills and a full mane. What will he do when he comes face-to-face with the king of the jungle?

For Review Only

Reading Levels
Guided Reading: O
DRA Level: 30
Lexile® Level: 610L

121585

ISBN-13: 978-1-0876-0534-0

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