The Little Chick and the Big Flock

By Michelle Wanasundera
Illustrated by Lilia Martynyuk
The Little Chick and the Big Flock

By Michelle Wanasundera
Illustrated by Lilia Martynyuk

Library For All Ltd.
Something special was happening.
Tick, tick, tick.
Scratch, scratch, scratch.
Crack!

Soon, four chicks had hatched.
But there was still one more.
What was taking it so long?
Tick, tick, tick.
Scratch, scratch, scratch.

Tick, tick, tick.
Scratch, scratch, scratch.
Then, finally...
Yay! The last chick has hatched. Mama Bird hugged her new little chicks.

“You’re all just perfect,” she said, feeling proud of herself.
But one little chick did not feel perfect. You see, she knew she was different to the other chicks.
My wings are so small. Too small!, she said to herself, worriedly.
Every day the wings of the four chicks grew.

But one little chick’s wings were always smaller than the other chicks’ wings.
"Whoa! Look at that big flying flock," said the little chick.

The edge of the nest seemed so far away.

But now, the chicks crept closer and closer, all excited for their first flight.

Except one little chick.

One little chick whose wings were smaller than the other chicks.
Being a lot smaller, thought the little chick worriedly,
What if I can’t fly well?
What if I’m slower than the other chicks?
What if I get left behind?
What if I can’t fly at all?
I hate being different from the others.
I’ll never be a part of a big flying flock.
The day had finally arrived, and the chicks were so excited for their first flight.

But of course, one little chick felt the opposite.

She was scared, and she felt sad in her heart.

*Why do I have to be different?* she thought.
“Okay, my darlings, on the count of three I want you to flap, flap, flap, and fly,” said Mama Bird.

One, two, three, four little chicks took their first flight out of the nest.

“Wheeeeee!” they cried.

The fifth little chick flapped her little wings as hard as she could and...
...flew gently to the ground. She’d done it.

But I’m so much slower than the others... How will I ever keep up with a big flock? she thought.

The five chicks kept growing and practising.

And one day, they were ready to join the big flock.
The little chick knew she could fly. But what if she couldn’t keep up with the others?

Mama Bird took her aside, “Stay in the middle, Little Chick, and you’ll be just fine.”

You see, in the middle of the flock, Little Chick bounced along special waves of air—the others were supporting her.
Little Chick’s wings were smaller, and she was a little slower. But she wasn’t worried about being a little different.

Because it didn’t matter, it didn’t matter at all!
You can use these questions to talk about this book with your family, friends and teachers.

What did you learn from this book?

Describe this book in one word. Funny? Scary? Colourful? Interesting?

How did this book make you feel when you finished reading it?

What was your favourite part of this book?

download our reader app
getlibraryforall.org

About the contributors

Library For All works with authors and illustrators from around the world to develop diverse, relevant, high quality stories for young readers. Visit libraryforall.org for the latest news on writers' workshop events, submission guidelines and other creative opportunities.
Did you enjoy this book?

We have hundreds more expertly curated original stories to choose from.

We work in partnership with authors, educators, cultural advisors, governments and NGOs to bring the joy of reading to children everywhere.

Did you know?

We create global impact in these fields by embracing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

libraryforall.org
What type of Library For All reader are you?

Learner - Beginner readers

Level 1 - Rising readers

Level 2 - Eager readers

Level 3 - Progressing readers

Level 4 - Fluent readers

Step up your reading skills with playful narratives, new words and fun facts.

Middle Primary - Curious readers

Upper Primary - Adventurous readers

libraryforall.org
#lettheworldlearn


9781922991652