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Readers' Theater

The Ugly

Duckling





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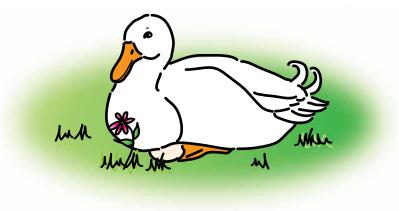
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Group 3: Finally he would have a family!

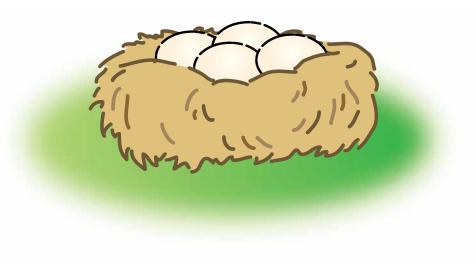
ALL: "Hello, Hello, Hello to you. I do look the way you do. I'm happy that my neck is long, And I'm glad my wings are strong. All one happy family, Beautiful swans are we!"



The Ugly Duckling

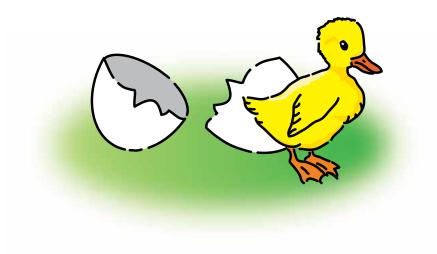


- **Group 1:** One spring a mother duck made her nest on the bank of a pond.
- **Group 2:** She laid her eggs and sat on her nest waiting for them to hatch.



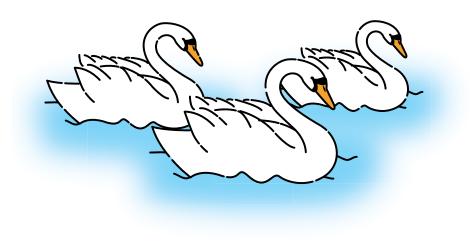
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- **Group 3:** All of a sudden, the mother duck saw that one of the eggs was cracking.
- Boys: "Peep, Peep," said the little duckling as he looked into her eyes. "Here I am! Your little prize!"
- Girls: "Quack, Quack," Mama said as she gave him a hug. "I love you, Baby. You're as cute as a bug!"



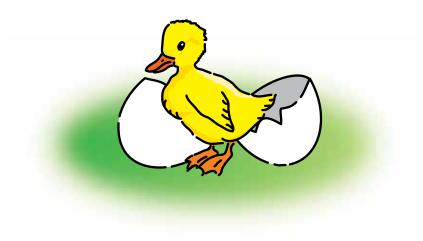
- **Group 3:** The ugly duckling looked into the still pond.
- **Group 1:** It was true. He had changed during the long winter.
- Group 2: He did look beautiful!





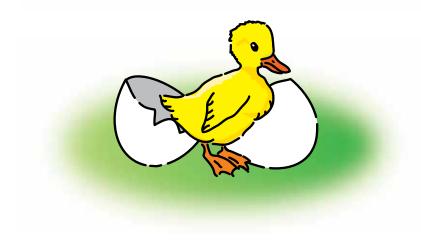
- **Group 1:** The second egg cracked open, and another baby came out of her shell.
- Boys: "Peep, Peep," said the little duckling as she looked into her eyes. "Here I am! Your little prize!"

- **Group 3:** The ugly duckling swam slowly over to the beautiful birds.
- Group 1: He was afraid that the birds would call him ugly and make fun of him, too!
- **Group 2:** But the birds did not make fun of him. They looked at him and said,
- ALL: "Hello, Hello, Hello to you. We see you look the way we do. Your neck is long, And your wings are strong. Come and join our family. Beautiful swans are we!"



- Girls: "Quack, Quack," Mama said as she gave her a hug. "I love you, Baby. You're as cute as a bug!"
- **Group 2:** The third little egg cracked open, too! Another baby began to talk.

Boys: "Peep, Peep," said the little duckling as he looked into her eyes. "Here I am! Your little prize!"



- Girls: "Quack, Quack," Mama said as she gave him a hug. "I love you, Baby. You're as cute as a bug!"
- **Group 3:** Mother Duck had just one egg left! It was much bigger than the other three.

Group 3: But he knew that one day the sun would shine and warm the water.



- **Group 1:** Finally that day came. The sun was warm and strong. It gave the ugly duckling hope.
- **Group 2:** On that day beautiful white birds with long necks landed on the pond.

- **Group 1:** At last he found a quiet pond where he could be alone. He never wanted to hear the word "ugly" again.
- **Group 2:** The ugly duckling swam and dove in the water. Although he was alone, he felt free and happy.
- **Group 3:** Soon the days got shorter and shorter.
- Group 1: The water got colder, too.
- **Group 2:** There were many days when the ugly duckling was very hungry and so very cold.

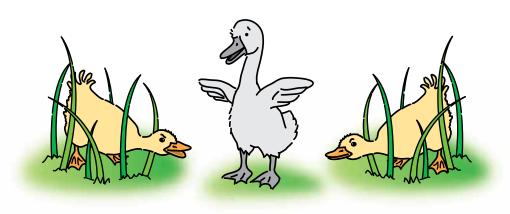


Group 1: At last the shell started to crack.

Group 2: The three little ducklings looked on as they heard a great big "Peep, Peep, Peep!"

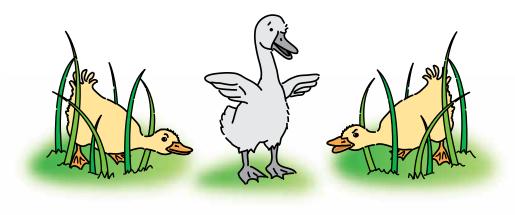


Group 3: The baby ducklings looked at their new baby brother and said,



- ALL: "You don't look the way we do. We don't want to be with you. You're so ugly, go away! Don't come back another day!"
- **Group 1:** The ugly duckling looked sadly into his mama's eyes. Mama looked at him kindly and put her wing around him.
- **Group 2:** "Come, my babies," she said. "We're going for a swim."
- Group 3: So off to the pond they went.

- **Group 1:** Every day the other animals made fun of the ugly duckling.
- **Group 2:** Every day the ugly duckling's brothers and sister made fun of him, too!



- ALL: "You don't look the way we do. We don't want to be with you. You're so ugly, go away! Don't come back another day!"
- **Group 3:** One sad day the ugly duckling just ran away. He walked a long, long way.