

Souperchicken by Mary Jane and Herm Auch Holiday House, 2003

SYNOPSIS-

Henrietta is a chicken whose beak always seems to be in a book. In fact, she's so busy reading, she hardly ever has time to lay eggs. No wonder she isn't invited on the special outing with her hardworking aunties. But when the aunties are loaded onto a truck for their all-expenses-paid vacation, Henrietta is suspicious. Then she reads the words Souper Soup Company on the truck. As it pulls away, she realizes that these hens are headed for some hot water! It's up to Henrietta to use her reading skills to track down and save the hen's tail feathers before her beloved aunties become the soup of the day.
-Holiday House, 2003

THEMES-

farms, nutrition, the enjoyment of reading, being helpful

ABOUT THE AUTHOR-

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ACTIVITIES-

1. Before reading *Souperchicken*, cover up the text on each page and ask your students to predict what will happen in the story by looking at the illustrations. Ask your students if they noticed any words in the illustrations that gave them clues as to what will happen in the story. Read the story. Then discuss with your students why it is so important to learn to read. With your students make a list regarding all the things that they read throughout their day to make their life easier. Ask the students individually or in small groups to write a short story about a reading adventure they could go on similar to that of Henrietta's.
2. Provide your students with four buckets. Put a picture of a cow, pig, hen, and sheep on each bucket. Give your students pictures of different foods that come from a farm or provide them with plastic play food that comes from a farm. Ask them to categorize what types of food each animal provides us. For example a pig provides us with bacon, ham, and pork chops so those pictures or play foods would go in the pigs bucket. To help your students remember what items we get from each farm animal sing these songs:

Oink, Oink Pink Pig

sung to the tune of "Baa, Baa Black Sheep"
Oink, oink pink pig have you any meat?
Yes sir, yes sir as much as you can eat?
Bacon for your breakfast, ham for your lunch,
Sausage in the freezer for your morning brunch!

Oink, oink pink pig have you any meat?
Yes sir, yes sir as much as you can eat?

Cluck, Cluck Red Hen

sung to the tune of "Baa, Baa Black Sheep"
Cluck, cluck red hen have you any eggs?
Yes sir, yes sir as many as you legs?
One for your brother, one your pa
One just for you cooked by your ma.
Cluck, cluck red hen have you any eggs?
Yes sir, yes sir as many as you legs?

Baa, Baa Black Sheep

sung to the tune of "Baa, Baa Black Sheep"
Baa, Baa Black Sheep have you any wool?
Yes sir, yes sir three bags full.
One for your sweater, one for your rug.
One for your blanket to keep you warm and snug.
Baa, Baa Black Sheep have you any wool?
Yes sir, yes sir three bags full.

Moo, Moo Dairy Cow

sung to the tune of "Baa, Baa Black Sheep"
Moo, moo dairy cow have you any milk for me?
Yes sir, yes sir as tasty as can be.
Churn it into butter, make it into cheese.
Freeze it into ice cream or drink it if you please.
Moo, moo dairy cow have you any milk for me?
Yes sir, yes sir as tasty as can be.