

Henny Penny

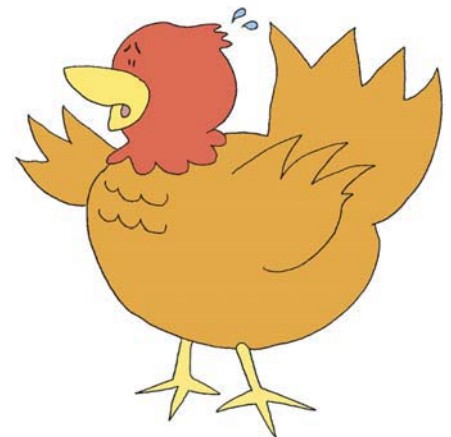
by Chris Barton, MM, MT-BC

Story in a Can

Print the activity onto cardstock paper and cut out the characters. The first page of the activity has Henny Penny and the title in a circle. This is a label you can use for the top of your cookie tin that will hold the characters for the story. As you tell the story, keep the characters out of sight until they are ready to make their appearance. If your group is small enough, you could have each child be responsible for holding a character and moving it throughout the story.

Here are some more ideas to make your story in a can come alive:

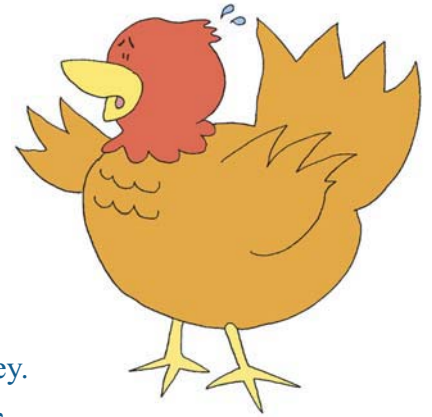
- Print and assemble the activity.
- This story can be told with one child or a group of children.
- Create excitement about what could be in the can before you open it. Wave a magic wand over the can and have the children come up with some magic words to say.
- Keep the characters in the can until they appear in the story. You can have the children hold them and be responsible for saying the character's lines.
- Teach the refrain, "The sky is falling, the sky is falling, I must go tell the King!" at the beginning when Henny-Penny first sings it. Pat knees to reinforce the beat. Practice until it's almost right.
- Keep interest in the story by changing voices to match the characters'.
- See how many of the characters the children can recall after the story has been told. Give extra points for the proper sequence!
- Talk about the ending and what might have happened if the rooster hadn't crowed.
- Come up with a new set of characters and use small plastic figures to act it out. Ex: Piggy-wiggy, doggy-woggy, etc.
- Use another animal to be the "bad guy."
- Act the story out using students.
- Put the words to the refrain up on the board for students to see.



Henny Penny

As told by Chris Barton, MM, MT-BC © 2010

Once upon a time, there was a chicken named, Henny-Penny. All day long Henny-Penny would peck, peck, peck and scratch, scratch, scratch out in the barnyard, because that's what chickens do. They peck, peck, peck and scratch, scratch, scratch. One day when Henny-Penny was peck, peck, peckin' and scratch, scratch, scratchin,' something hit her on the head. "OUCH! Goodness gracious me!" she said. "The sky is falling, the sky is falling, I must go tell the King!" So, she ran out of the barnyard to go tell the King that the sky was falling.



Well, she went along and she went along until she met her friend Goosey-Loosey. "Honk!" said Goosey-Loosey. "Where are you going?" And Henny-Penny said, "The sky is falling, the sky is falling, I must go tell the King!" "Honk!" said Goosey-Loosey. "May I come with you?" "Buck-aw!" said Henny-Penny, which means "yes" in chicken talk.

So, Henny-Penny and Goosey-Loosey went along and they went along until they met their friend Ducky-Wucky. "Quack!" said Ducky-Wucky, "Where are you going?" And Henny-Penny said, "The sky is falling, the sky is falling, I must go tell the King!" "Quack!" said Ducky-Wucky. "May I come with you?" "Buck-aw!" said Henny-Penny, which means "yes" in chicken talk.

So, Henny-Penny and Goosey-Loosey and Ducky-Wucky went along and they went along until they met their friend Sheepy-Weepy. "Baa!" said Sheepy-Weepy. "Where are you going?" And Henny-Penny said, "The sky is falling, the sky is falling, I must go tell the King!" "Baa!" said Sheepy-Weepy. "May I come with you?" "Buck-aw!" said Henny-Penny, which means "yes" in chicken talk.

So, Henny-Penny and Goosey-Loosey and Ducky-Wucky and Sheepy-Weepy went along and they went along until they met their friend Cowsy-Wowsy. "Moo!" said Cowsy-Wowsy. "Where are you going?" And Henny-Penny said, "The sky is falling, the sky is falling, I must go tell the King!" "Moo!" said Cowsy-Wowsy. "May I come with you?" "Buck-aw!" said Henny-Penny, which means "yes" in chicken talk.

So, Henny-Penny and Goosey-Loosey and Ducky-Wucky and Sheepy-Weepy and Cowsy-Wowsy went along and they went along until they met... Foxy-Woxy. "What's the hurry?" said Foxy-Woxy. And Henny-Penny said, "The sky is falling, the sky is falling, I must go tell the King!" "But you are going the wrong way," said Foxy-Woxy. "I will show you a shortcut." So, Henny-Penny and Goosey-Loosey and Ducky-Wucky and Sheepy-Weepy and Cowsy-Wowsy all followed Foxy-Woxy. But, he wasn't taking them on a shortcut. Not at all! He was taking them back to his cave to eat them for supper!!!



But, just then, "Cock-a-doodle-doo!" crowed the rooster back in the barnyard. "Goodness gracious me!" said Henny-Penny, "It's time to lay an egg!" So, Henny-Penny and Goosey-Loosey and Ducky-Wucky and Sheepy-Weepy and Cowsy-Wowsy all ran back to the barnyard and never did tell the King that the sky was falling.

"Buck-aw! Buck-aw" said Henny-Penny, which means "the end" in chicken talk.

