



# #10051 CHICKEN LITTLE

WESTON WOODS STUDIOS, 1996  
Grade Level: K-4  
9 mins.

## DESCRIPTION

When an acorn hits Chicken Little on the head, she and her friends mistakenly and frantically believe the sky is falling. Clever Foxy Loxy, disguised as a policeman, tries to steal them for food, but is foiled. Animated version of the familiar story retold by Steven Kellogg. Narrated by Helen Hunt and Hank Azaria.

## ACADEMIC STANDARDS

### Subject Area: Language Arts–Reading

- Standard: Uses reading skills and strategies to understand and interpret a variety of literary texts
  - ♦ Benchmark: Uses reading skills and strategies to understand a variety of familiar literary passages and texts (e.g., fairy tales, folktales, fiction, nonfiction, legends, fables, myths, poems, nursery rhymes, picture books, predictable books) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 3 and 4.)
  - ♦ Benchmark: Knows setting, main characters, main events, sequence, and problems in stories (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 2.)

## INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To learn the value of critical thinking.
2. To practice following a sequence of events.
3. To appreciate a story of humor and adventure.
4. To promote the reading of children’s literature.

## VOCABULARY

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|--------------|--------------------------|
| 1. acorn     | 8. imprison              |
| 2. adventure | 9. innocent              |
| 3. chicken   | 10. kidnapping           |
| 4. duck      | 11. police               |
| 5. fox       | 12. poultry              |
| 6. goose     | 13. sky                  |
| 7. hen       | 14. wanted (for a crime) |

## BEFORE SHOWING

1. Read the book *Chicken Little* by Steven Kellogg. Review the sequence of events.
2. Discuss personal situations that involved feeling sad or upset about something before understanding the whole situation.
  - a. How did you feel at the time?
  - b. How did you feel later when you knew the whole situation?
  - c. What would you do the next time something like that happened?

## DURING SHOWING

1. View the video more than once, with one showing uninterrupted.
2. Pause near the beginning when Chicken Little is reading the wanted poster.
  - a. Explain the purpose of a wanted poster and the usual contents of a wanted poster.
  - b. Review the contents of the poster including Foxy Loxy's crimes and the warnings.
  - c. Discuss why the author included the wanted poster at the beginning of the story.
3. Pause when Foxy Loxy is comparing the words "poultry" and "police." Show the similarities in the words. Predict what the fox might do next.

## AFTER SHOWING

### Discussion Items and Questions

1. Describe the wanted poster that Chicken Little saw. Why was Foxy Loxy wanted?
2. What hit Chicken Little on the head? What did Chicken Little think hit her on the head?
3. Where was Foxy Loxy when the acorn hit Chicken Little on the head? What was he thinking of doing with Chicken Little?
4. List all of the characters in the order that they joined Chicken Little in her calls for help. Discuss why Henny Penny and the others believed Chicken Little.
5. What did Foxy Loxy plan to do with each bird? What book was he looking at?
6. How did Foxy Loxy outsmart the birds? Why did he do that?
7. What happened when Chicken Little recognized Foxy Loxy from the wanted poster?
8. Explain what happened to cause the hippo's helicopter to crash into the truck. Who yelled that the sky was falling this time? What did the birds yell?
9. What did Foxy Loxy claim in court? What was the judge's decision? How did Foxy Loxy feel?
10. Describe what happened to the acorn at the end of the story.

### Applications and Activities

1. Locate and share the original story of Chicken Little. Compare and contrast the two stories. Discuss why Steven Kellogg changed the story so much. Which did you enjoy more?

## C a p t i o n e d M e d i a P r o g r a m

2. Dramatize the story. While acting, use facial expressions and body language to demonstrate the characters various feelings. Present the play. Possible props and costumes include:
  - a. Make beaks and wings from yellow construction paper for the birds.
  - b. Use white paper teeth and orange ears for the fox.
  - c. Paint a large appliance box for the fox's truck.
  - d. Include a doll carriage, cookbook, toy golf clubs, and a baton (for the bar bell) as additional props.
3. Create original silly stories. Write the stories, dictate them to an older peer, or videotape them. Illustrate the sequence of events, and make books. Attach the words or play the videotape while sharing the pictures.
4. Make a story map showing the correct sequence of events. This could be done individually or as a mural with the entire class.
5. Watch the video again. Pause to identify synonyms for "said." (There are 18 different synonyms, including announced, chuckled, shrieked, cried, squawked, wailed, etc.)
  - a. Make a list of the synonyms for "said."
  - b. Dramatize the various character statements to illustrate the author's choice of synonym for "said."
  - c. Create original dialogue between the characters from *Chicken Little*. Use at least eight of the verbs for "said."
6. Study acorns and other nuts and seeds.
  - a. Crack an acorn open to study the inside of the seed. Compare to other seeds and nuts.
  - b. Put an acorn in dirt in a dark place. See how long it will take for the acorn to sprout. Sprout other nuts and seeds. Compare their rates of growth.
  - c. Match various seeds and nuts to pictures of the grown plants.
7. Learn about chickens and other kinds of birds. Visit a farm, park, or zoo with an assortment of birds. Discuss which birds are usually used for food. Compare to other cultures.

### SUMMARY

When an acorn falls on Chicken Little's head, she convinces herself and her friends that the sky is falling. Unbeknownst to her, Foxy Loxy is getting ready to capture them for a tasty meal. He disguises himself as a police officer, outwits the birds, gathers them into his truck, and prepares to take them home for a poultry dinner. In the end however, Foxy Loxy is the captured one, and Chicken Little lives to tell the tale of the day the sky fell to her grandchicks.

### CMP RELATED RESOURCES

- [The Most Wonderful Egg in the World #2090](#)
- [The Day Jimmy's Boa Ate the Wash #3228](#)
- [Rosie's Walk #9009](#)
- [The Little Red Hen #2671](#)

## World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and “kid safe” sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

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- **STEPHEN KELLOGG'S BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

<http://www.friend.ly.net/scoop/biographies/kelloggsteven/index.html>

This is Stephen Kellogg's own story of his life as an author and illustrator. He discusses his inspirations and the art of a picture book.

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- **CHICKEN LITTLE**

<http://www.geocities.com/mjloundy/index.html>

This Web page presents the original version of *Chicken Little* with some illustrations.

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- **ALL ABOUT CHICKENS FOR KIDS AND TEACHERS**

<http://www.kiddyhouse.com/Farm/Chicken/Chicken.html>

This Web site is full of links to all kinds of information about chickens and eggs, including a link to “Chickscope”— a site about chicken embryos. Scroll down for thematic teaching units, clip art and graphics, activities, and games.

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- **LESSON PLAN: SEQUENCING**

<http://www.col-ed.org/cur/misc/misc32.txt>

A full lesson plan for sequencing, using picture cards that can be adapted to various levels.