

## A Readers Theater Adaptation of *Chicken Big* by Keith Graves

Created by Michelle Mayo, Ashley Elementary Librarian

### Characters:

Little Rooster -	Narrator 2
Small Chicken (1) -	Narrator 3 & Fox-
Smaller Chicken (2)	Narrator 4 –
Smallest Chicken (3)	Narrator 5 –
Big Chicken	Narrator 6 –
Narrator 1 –	

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Rooster – What should we call this play?

Chicken 1 – How about Chicken kind of large?

Chicken 2 – Or...Chicken tall!

Chicken 3 – No, no, no. Chicken Salad!

Rooster – Wait! I'm having a brainstorm. Let's call it...**CHICKEN BIG!**

ALL – That's it!

N1 – Written by Keith Graves

N2 – On a teeny little farm,

N3 – in an itty-bitty coop,

N4 – a very small hen laid a big, humongous egg.

Chicken 2 – Bok

N5 – The egg began to shake.

N6 – The egg began to quake.

N5 – Out popped a big, humongous chick.

Rooster – What is it?

N1 – crowed the little rooster.

Chicken 1 – It's big

N6 – clucked small chicken

Chicken 2 – It's enormous

N4 – clucked the smaller chicken

Chicken 3 – It's an elephant

N3 – peeped the smallest chicken. She was not the sharpest beak in the flock.

Rooster – He's too big to stay in our itty-bitty coop

N2 – crowed the little rooster.

Chicken 1 – Much, much too big,

N6 – clucked the small chicken

Chicken 2 – He'll break the floor!

N2 – clucked the smaller chicken

Chicken 3 – Indoor elephants are dangerous!

N5 – squawked the smallest chicken.

Big Chicken – I don't feel like an elephant

N1 – thought the big chicken.

All Chickens – No elephants allowed!

Big Chicken – I wish I was a chicken.

N3 – The next day, an acorn fell and conked the smallest chicken in the head.

Chicken 3 – The sky is falling! Run for your lives!

ALL chickens– (choose a chicken sound) – Buk-Buk, Bok, Awk!

N4 – So, the chickens ran for their lives.

Big Chicken – Don't worry. It's only an acorn. They're actually quite tasty

N6 – said the big, humongous chick.

Rooster – I don't think elephants eat acorns

N2- said the little rooster

Chicken 1 – I heard they only eat popcorn.

N5 – clucked the small chicken

Chicken 2 – Maybe he's not an elephant

N1 – clucked the smaller chicken.

N3 – the smallest chicken looked closely at the big, humongous chick.

Chicken 3 – Ah, my mistake. He must be a squirrel!

Big Chicken – A squirrel?

N4 – thought the big humongous chick, munching on the acorns.

N2 – Later on, the smallest chicken was pecking for worms when a raindrop splatted on top of her head.

All Narrators – SPLAT!

Chicken 3 – The sky is leaking! We'll all drown! Run for your lives!

N1 – And the chickens ran for their lives again.

ALL chickens– (choose a chicken sound) – Buk-Buk, Bok, Awk!

Big chicken – Relax, it's only rain. Come stand under my wings and you will stay dry.

N5 – said the big, humongous chick.

Rooster – I've never seen a squirrel do that

N3 – crowed the little rooster

Chicken 1 – Not very squirrel-ish at all

N6 – clucked the smaller chicken

Chicken 3 – I see what you're saying

N2 – peeped the smallest chicken

Chicken 3 – Apparently, he's an umbrella!

Big Chicken – These are not bright chickens

N3 – thought the big chick.

N4 – After a while, a chilly wind began to blow.

Chicken 3 – Someone has put the world in the refrigerator! We're all going to freeze!

N5 – Peeped the smallest chicken

Chicken 3 – Run for your lives!

All narrators – But they didn't get far.

ALL chickens – (choose a chicken sound) – Buk-Buk, Bok, Awk!

Big Chicken – Don't panic

N1 – said the big, humongous chick.

Big Chicken – It is only the north wind. Stand behind me and I will protect you.

N6 – The chickens all felt much better.

Rooster – An umbrella would have turned inside out in this wind

N1 – crowed the little rooster.

Chicken 1 – He’s not inside out as far as I can tell

N5 – clucked the small chicken.

Chicken 2 – I’m all warm and comfy now

N6 – clucked the smaller chicken

Chicken 3 – Only one thing makes me feel this way

N3 – peeped the smallest chicken

Chicken 3 – Plainly, this fellow is...A SWEATER!

Big Chicken – This is getting ridiculous

N2 – thought the big, humongous chick.

N6 – At naptime, the little chickens returned to the coop and found all their eggs were gone.

All Chickens – (Crying sounds) boo, hoo

Rooster – We’ve been robbed

N3 – crowed the little rooster.

Chicken 1 – By an egg burglar!

N1 –clucked the small chicken

Chicken 2 – Woe is me!

N2 – Clucked the smaller chicken

Chicken 3 – Woe is me, too!

N1 – peeped the smallest chicken

N5 – the chickens all began to boo hoo hoo

All Chicken – (Crying sounds) boo, hoo

N1 – But the big, humongous chick saw a sneaky red fox carrying the eggs into his den a mile away.

Big Chicken – Oh no you don't!

N4 – With three giant hop-hop-hops, the big, humongous chick caught up to the fox

N2 – just as he was about to make himself a scrambled egg supper.

N3 (fox) – Yikes! A hippopotamus!

N6 – said the fox

Big Chicken – I don't think so, But you are a naughty thief!

N5 – said the big, humongous chicken.

N1 – The frightened fox ran away with his tail between his legs,

N5 – Having lost all interest in poultry.

N6 – In no time, the big chick was stomping back to the coop with the missing eggs.

All chickens – Our babies! Our hero!

All – YAAAAAAAAY!

Rooster – I knew it all along! He's no elephant!

Chicken 1 – He's definitely not a squirrel

Chicken 2 – He's surely no umbrella!

Chicken 3 – He couldn't be a sweater!

