



# CHICKEN DANCE

## GRADE 2 STUDY BUDDY

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# GRADE 2 LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Instructions for the Teachers and/or Grownups  
of Grade 2 Children

## ➔ INSTRUCTIONS

1. WATCH each of the four segments of ArtsPower's musical, *Chicken Dance*, with your child.
2. After each segment, DISCUSS the questions on the "Discussion Questions" page.
3. COMPLETE the activities in this guide as you proceed from Lesson 1 through Lesson 13.

## ABOUT ARTSPOWER'S *CHICKEN DANCE*



Based on the book by Tammi Sauer and illustrator Dan Santat, ArtsPower's *Chicken Dance* is a fully-staged, 53-minute musical theatre production, presented in four parts, that features a cast of four professional actors, a rich and beautifully composed musical score, eye-catching sets and costumes, and a compelling story about two feisty chickens.

Marge and Lola are two chickens who want to enter the annual barnyard talent show so they can win two tickets to see singing sensation Elvis Poultry in concert. Throughout their quest to discover their talent, they are challenged by Mac the Duck, the barnyard bully, who is out to derail the chickens from winning the talent show. As they experiment with various possible acts for the show, Marge and Lola realize they are struggling to find a talent. Along the way, they share their enthusiasm for the contest with Elsie, a shy and reserved cow who has no interest in entering. Eventually, Elsie decides to enter the contest.

As the talent show unfolds, and the chickens are next to compete, they decide to do what all good chickens do when they are in a pinch: "Wing it!" We hope you and your child enjoy ArtsPower's *Chicken Dance*.

## Grade 2: Discussion Questions



WHAT YOU NEED FOR THIS ACTIVITY: Help from your teachers and/or grownups after watching each of the four parts of the *Chicken Dance* video.



DISCUSS: After each part, discuss the questions below with your teachers and/or grownups.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS AFTER THE FIRST PART OF THE VIDEO

1. Who are the characters you met in *Chicken Dance*?
2. Where does the show take place?
3. What are the prizes for winning the barnyard talent contest?
4. What were the chickens wearing that made them look like chickens?
5. What kind of animal is Mac?
6. Can chickens really fly?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS AFTER THE SECOND PART OF THE VIDEO

1. What talents do Marge and Lola try as they search for their talent?
2. How is Mac the Duck acting when he sees the chickens practicing?
3. What kind of animal is Elsie?
4. What kind of animal is Elvis Poultry?
5. What happens to Elsie after she meets Elvis?
6. What talent does Elsie decide to try?
7. How do Marge and Lola react when they hear what Elsie wants to try?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS AFTER THE THIRD PART OF THE VIDEO

1. When Elsie does not show up for the talent show, where do you think she might be?
2. Who are the animals that compete in the talent show?
3. Did you enjoy Mac the Duck's performance at the talent show? If you did, what about it did you most enjoy? If you did not, describe why.

## Grade 2: Discussion Questions

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS AFTER THE FOURTH PART OF THE VIDEO

1. Given that Elsie did not really want to enter the contest at first, did you think she had a chance of winning?
2. What caused Lola to start singing and dancing?
3. How does Mac behave when he realizes he has not won the contest?
4. What did you learn about dealing with a bully?
5. How would you persuade Mac the Duck to be kinder to the other animals?

## Grade 2: Watch and Respond



WHAT YOU NEED FOR THIS ACTIVITY: A pencil.



WATCH AND RESPOND: Watch each part of the *Chicken Dance* video. Pay close attention to what Marge tells Lola to do. Also, keep an eye on Elsie. Then, respond to the questions below.

What does Marge tell Lola she can do to help her stay calm when Mac is bullying her? What is something that helps you calm down?

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Marge tells Lola she is her “wing girl,” or someone who is helpful to Lola. Write about someone who is helpful to you and use two examples to explain how he/she provides help.

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## Grade 2: Watch and Respond

After we meet Elsie, she says she is not going to participate in the talent show. Why does she say this?

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Elsie wins the talent show! How do you think she felt after winning, and why?

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## Grade 2: Watch and Respond

Describe a time where a friend or family member helped you to do something you were afraid of doing.

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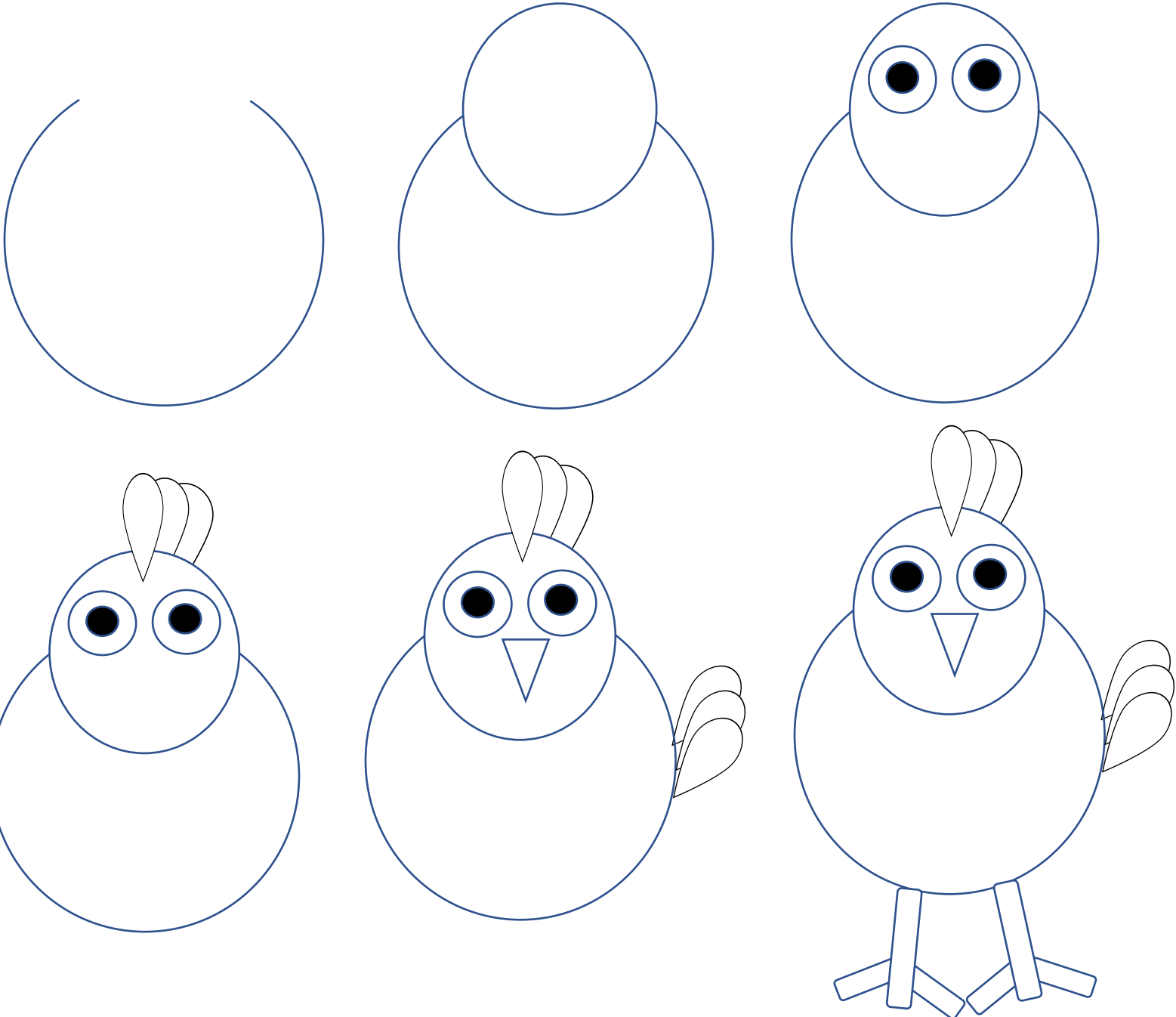
# Grade 2: Marge, Lola, and Elvis Poultry Poster



WHAT YOU NEED FOR THIS ACTIVITY: A pencil, crayons, and extra pieces of blank white paper.



CREATE: Marge and Lola want you to create a poster for their new act with Elvis Poultry. Draw a poster showing the chickens Marge and Lola dancing with Elvis Poultry. You may follow the tips below on how to draw a chicken, or you can create your own Marge, Lola, and Elvis Poultry. You may use the next page to draw your poster.





# Grade 2: Marge, Lola, and Elvis Poultry Poster

## CHICKEN DANCE

## Grade 2: Vocabulary Words



WHAT YOU NEED FOR THIS ACTIVITY: A pencil.



LEARN: Read the vocabulary words and their definitions below and learn what these words mean.

### Barnyard

The area around the barn where the animals spend their time.

"We set up the stage outside, right here in the middle of the barnyard."

### Bawk

The act of making chicken sounds.

"All you chickens can do is bawk, flap, and shake."

### Contestant

A person (or animal) who takes part in a contest.

"Now, our contestants will be scored on a scale from one to ten

### Friend

A person (or animal) who supports another person (or animal) by being kind to them.

"You're my constant friend, to the bitter end!"

### Jinx

To bring bad luck to or cast an evil spell on.

"No wait! We should just put it out of our minds! We don't want to jinx it."

### Juggle

To continuously toss into the air and catch more than one object at a time.

"Yeah, well you were the one who said: 'Oh, I can juggle'."

### Mantra

A word, phrase, or sound said repeatedly.

"Lola, breathe! Say your mantra – 'OM'!"

### Talent

A special skill or ability.

"Hey Marge, I think I've finally found our talent!"

### Wing Girls

Girls who provide help to each other.

"I'm your wing girl, and together we will fly!"

## Grade 2: Vocabulary Matching



WHAT YOU NEED FOR THIS ACTIVITY: A pencil.



CONNECT: Match the word to the definition and connect the two by drawing a line from the vocabulary word to its definition. You can look back at the vocabulary word list if you need to.

Bawk	Girls who provide help to each other
Barnyard	A special skill or ability
Juggle	The area around the barn where the animals spend their time
Jinx	A word, phrase, or sound said repeatedly
Contestant	The act of making chicken sounds
Wing Girls	To continuously toss into the air and catch more than one object at a time
Mantra	A person (or animal) who takes part in a contest
Friend	A person (or animal) who supports another person (or animal) by helping them
Talent	To bring bad luck to or cast an evil spell on

# Grade 2: Word Search



WHAT YOU NEED FOR THIS ACTIVITY: A pencil.



FIND: Search the puzzle to find the vocabulary words you just learned. Circle the words when you find them.

M W W K N I L R J H H C W Y J V Q U  
Q F T C M Y Y U J L K V I E G L B P  
H D T J O M J V A U E C N C L H A J  
P P U M H N A T U A W T G W G F R C  
I A F V S F T J I N X A G P A Z N G  
J U G G L E Z E K H E L I Y V T Y G  
B P F R I E N D S O E E R S Q A A F  
O B A W K S W J H T J N L M H N R X  
C S B F U G V Y T J A T S N O B D P  
C I Q R A D C B A M A N T R A G Z N  
Q A W M E K K M V I J F T M K A D F  
W V U F M K A N L P S K I W O S X V

Find the words in the Word Bank. Words are hidden: ← , → and ↘ .

## Word Bank

BARNYARD	BAWK
CONTESTANT	FRIEND
JINX	JUGGLE
MANTRA	TALENT
WING GIRLS	

# Grade 2: Based on the Book



WHAT YOU NEED FOR THIS ACTIVITY: A pencil.



WATCH AND RESPOND: Watch the “Chicken Dance Book Read Along” video. Notice how the book is different from the play. Then, respond to the questions below by writing your answers.

1. What was your favorite part of the book?

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2. If you could play the part of one of the characters in the book, who would that be and why?

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3. Three things I noticed that are the same in both the book and the play are:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_