



CHICKEN DANCE

KINDERGARTEN STUDY BUDDY

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KINDERGARTEN LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Instructions for the Teachers and/or Grownups
of Kindergarten Children



INSTRUCTIONS

1. WATCH each of the four segments of ArtsPower's musical, *Chicken Dance*, with your child(ren).
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 can share their enthusiasm for entering 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(ren) enjoy ArtsPower's *Chicken Dance*.

Kindergarten: 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. How does Mac treat the chickens?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS AFTER THE SECOND PART OF THE VIDEO

1. What kind of animal is Elsie?
2. What kind of animal is Elvis Poultry?
3. Are Marge and Lola good at the talents they try?
4. What talent does Elsie decide to try?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS AFTER THE THIRD PART OF THE VIDEO

1. Is everyone excited about the talent show?
2. Who are the other animals that compete in the talent show?
3. Did you enjoy Mac the Duck's performance? If you did, what about it did you most enjoy?
4. If you did not enjoy Mac the Duck's performance, describe why.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS AFTER THE FOURTH PART OF THE VIDEO

1. What did you think about Elsie's talent? Explain why.
2. Were you surprised when the chickens started to sing and dance? If you were, why?
3. How does Mac the Duck behave when he realizes that he has not won the talent show?
4. What would you tell Mac the Duck so that he would be kinder to the other animals?

Kindergarten: Talent Show Poster



WHAT YOU NEED FOR THIS ACTIVITY: Help from your teachers and/or grownups, crayons, and extra pieces of blank white paper.



DRAW: There's a talent show at the barnyard and the animals are getting ready to perform their special acts. You just found out that the pig had to cancel at the last minute and Ms. Farmer wants YOU to take the pig's spot! What talent would you choose to perform at the show? Draw a picture below of you performing your special act at the barnyard talent show. You may also use the following page to draw your poster.

Kindergarten: Talent Show Poster

CHICKEN DANCE

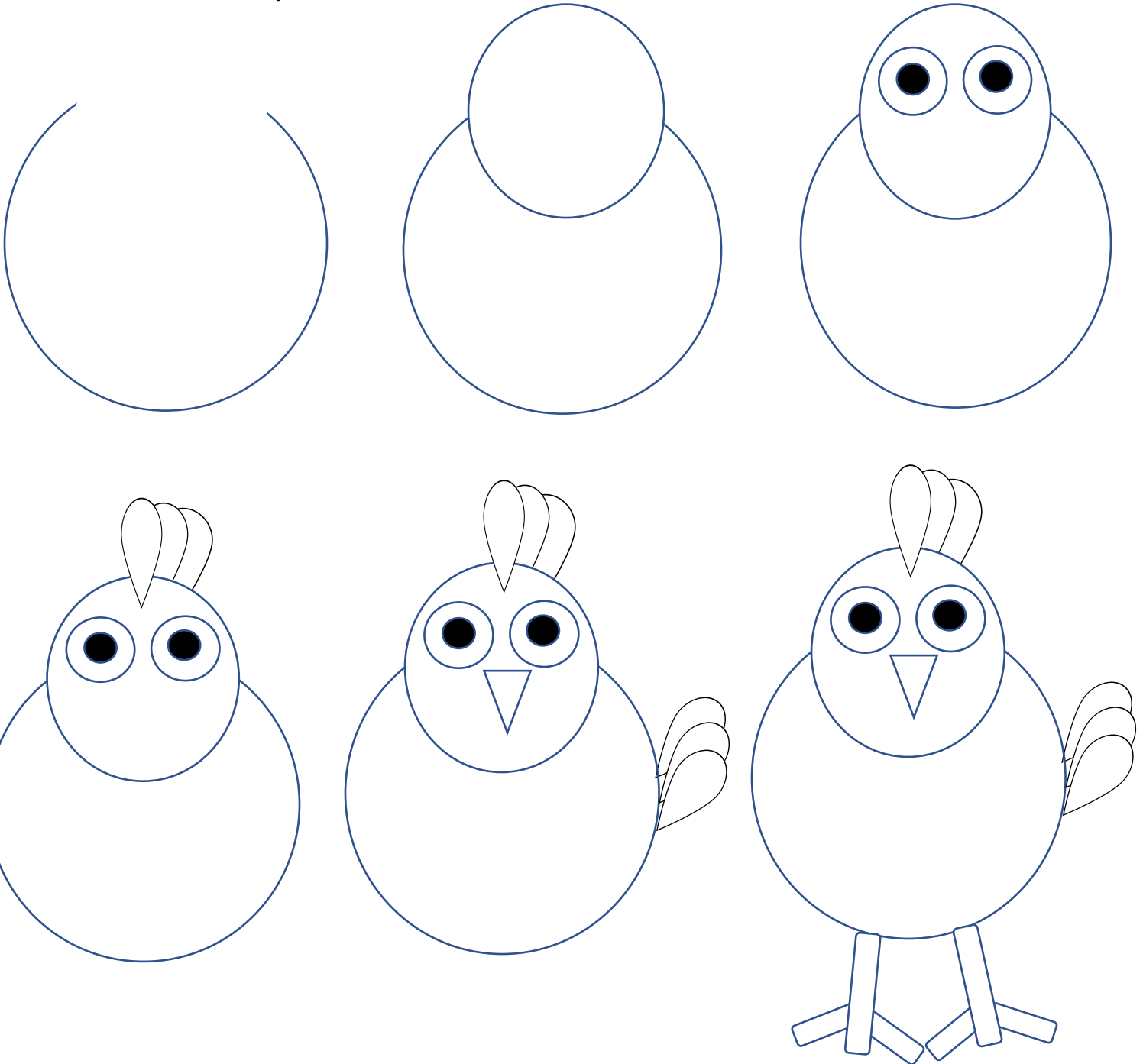
Kindergarten: Marge, Lola, and Elvis Poultry Poster



WHAT YOU NEED FOR THIS ACTIVITY: Help from your teachers and/or grownups, crayons, and pieces of blank white paper.



DRAW: 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.



Kindergarten: Making Connections



WHAT YOU NEED FOR THIS ACTIVITY: Help from your teachers and/or grownups, and crayons.



THINK AND RESPOND: Think about the characters in the play. Respond to the questions below by writing your answers or telling them to your grownup.

1. Who are Marge and Lola?

2. Who is Elvis Poultry?

3. There are many animals that perform at the talent show. Can you remember what each animal performed at the show?

a. The cow _____

b. The ducks _____

Kindergarten: Making Connections

c. The goat _____

d. The pigs _____

e. The chickens _____

4. Think about what happens in the play. Respond to the questions below by writing your answers or telling them to your teacher and/or grownup.

How do Marge and Lola feel before they perform? _____

Do Marge and Lola win the talent show? _____ If not, who wins?

What happens to Marge and Lola after the talent show? _____

Kindergarten: Vocabulary Words



WHAT YOU NEED FOR THIS ACTIVITY: Help from your teachers and/or grownups, and a pencil.



LEARN AND RESPOND: With your teacher or grownups, learn the definitions of the words below that you heard during the performance of *Chicken Dance*.



Barnyard: An area near a barn where farm animals roam



Introduce: To present someone or something to another person



Rehearse: To practice a skill, like singing and dancing, before a performance



Bully: A person who annoys and insults another person with words and/or actions



Juggle: To keep several objects, such as balls, in continuous motion in the air by tossing and catching them

Fill in the Sentence: Read the sentences below with a grownup or by yourself. Fill in each blank with a vocabulary word from the list you just learned by writing or saying it to your teacher and/or grownup.

1. I learned to _____ with 3 small balls.
2. The animals like to roam around in the _____.
3. When I meet someone for the first time, I like to _____ myself to him or her by saying my name.
4. Someone who is not nice and makes fun of another person is a _____.
5. Marge and Lola try to _____ their act many times before going on stage.

Kindergarten: Vocabulary Matching



WHAT YOU NEED FOR THIS ACTIVITY: Help from your teachers and/or grownups, and a pencil or crayon.



CONNECT each word below with the correct picture. Draw a line from the word to its picture.

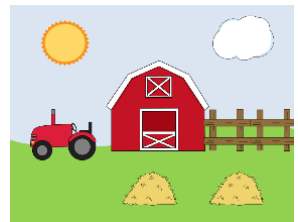
Barnyard



Introduce



Rehearse



Bully



Juggle



Kindergarten: Based on the Book



WHAT YOU NEED FOR THIS ACTIVITY: Help from your teacher and/or grownups, and a pencil to write down your answers.



WATCH, THINK, AND RESPOND: After you have seen the full performance of ArtsPower's *Chicken Dance*, watch the "Chicken Dance Read Along" video. Think about the differences you find between the book and the performance. Then, answer the two questions below by writing them down or telling them to your teacher and/or grownup.

- What was your favorite part of the book?

- Who are the animals in your favorite part?

Kindergarten: Favorite Part of the Book Poster



WHAT YOU NEED FOR THIS ACTIVITY: Help from your teachers and/or grownups, pencils and crayons, and extra pieces of blank, white paper.



THINK AND DRAW: Think about your favorite part of the book, and then draw a picture of that part below. You may also use the following page to draw your poster.

Kindergarten: Favorite Part of the Book Poster

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