Peg’s Ducks

Story by Laura Burton Rice
Illustrations by Scott Mattern
Letter sound /e/

Green Words (Phonetic):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>bed</th>
<th>eggs</th>
<th>pecked</th>
<th>ten</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>begged</td>
<td>fed</td>
<td>Peg’s</td>
<td>mess</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ben</td>
<td>Meg’s</td>
<td>pond</td>
<td>ducks</td>
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<tr>
<td>nest</td>
<td>set</td>
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Red Words (Sight):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>for</th>
<th>may</th>
<th>or</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>loved</td>
<td>O.K.</td>
<td>said</td>
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Practice reading these sentences.

The kids saw a nest with eggs.
Meg set Peg on the nest.
The eggs cracked.
One morning, a little girl called Meg slept very late.

Meg was in bed.
“Get up, Meg,” said Mom.
Meg got Peg.
Peg was Meg’s toy duck.

Point to the toy duck.
Ask the children to pretend to sleep and pantomime waking one of them up.
Meg stretched and yawned.

Meg patted Peg. She loved Peg, the toy duck. “Meg!” said Mom. “It is time for eggs. But NOT with Peg.”

Show an egg or a picture of an egg. Do you ever eat eggs for breakfast?
Meg’s mother thought she should stop taking Peg everywhere she went. But Meg did not listen.

Meg DID get Peg.
Meg fed an egg to Peg.
It was a mess!

Can toy ducks eat?
Point to the mess.
If children don’t know what a mess is, remind them of a recent mess in the classroom.
Mom’s mom was mad.

Mom said, “Get rid of the mess, or get rid of the duck.”
Meg got rid of the mess!

“Get rid of” means make it go away.
Meg begged Mom,
"May Peg and I play at the pond?"
"You may play with Ben," said Mom.
"But NOT with Peg!"

A pond is a small lake.
Meg’s mother thought she could go to the pond with her older brother, Ben, but not with Peg.

Meg begged Mom.
She begged and begged.
Mom said, “O.K., O.K.”
Ben took his little sister and Peg to the pond.

At the pond, Ben said, “See the nest! Ten eggs are in the nest.”
Meg said, “I can see the nest. A mom is not on the nest.”

Point to the nest.
Mother ducks usually sit on the eggs in the nest to keep them warm so the baby ducks will hatch or break out of the shells.
Meg was worried that the eggs would get cold, and then they would not hatch. What do you think she did?

Meg set Peg on the nest. She said, “Peg can be the mom.”
Meg thought her toy duck could keep the eggs warm until the mother duck returned. Do you think this was a good plan?

A duck swam up.
It was the mom!
It saw Peg on the nest.

Pantomime swimming. When you stop say, I swam.
How did the mother duck feel about seeing Peg in her nest, on top of her eggs?

The duck was mad!
It pecked Peg.
The duck pecked, and pecked, and pecked.

Have the children pretend to peck.
The mother duck pecked at Peg to get her out of the nest. But while she pecked, something was happening to the eggs.

“See, Ben!” said Meg.
“See, the eggs are cracking!”

Demonstrate cracking by cracking the egg you showed or cracking a piece of cardboard.
What do you think is going to come out of the eggs? (T-P-S)
Meg saw a lot of ducks!
The duck was happy.
It saw Peg was not bad.
And the ducks loved Peg.

Meg was happy that Peg was such a good duck sitter!

Do you think the ducklings think that Peg is their mother? (T-P-S)
Peg’s Ducks

1. Why did Peg’s mom not want Meg to take Peg with her everywhere?
   [Meg made a mess with Peg.]

2. Why did Meg put Peg on the nest?
   [Meg thought that Peg could hatch the eggs.]

3. Why did the mother duck feel mad?
   [The mother was worried that Peg was going to hurt her babies.]

4. Why did the mother duck stop pecking Peg?
   [She stopped pecking Peg because the eggs started cracking.]
KinderRoots

Peg’s Ducks

KinderRoots Shared Stories were developed under the direction of Robert E. Slavin and Nancy A. Madden, codirectors of the Success for All Foundation Family of Programs.

The mission of the Success for All Foundation is to develop and disseminate research-proven educational programs to ensure that all students, from all backgrounds, achieve at the highest academic levels.

These programs were originally developed at Johns Hopkins University.

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