**Book Title:** The Chicken of the Family  
**Author:** Mary Amato  
**Illustrator:** Delphine Durand

**Summary of Book:** Henrietta’s two older sisters tease her until she becomes convinced she really is a chicken. She visits Barney’s farm to find her “real” chicken family, but her sisters search her out. The story ends with a “glorious, uproarious chicken dance.”

*Before Reading* (Ask questions and use what the child already knows to add to the discussion, assisting the child in understanding and enjoying the book):

1. Let your child touch, open, and page through the book.
2. As you go through the pictures, maybe your child can point out chickens, eggs, and chicks.
3. If your child has siblings, talk about the things older siblings might do to younger ones, both positive and negative.

**During Reading:** (ask these questions)

1. Stop and inquire how Henrietta might feel after her sisters do/say different things.
2. “Have you ever felt like you didn’t fit in (at home, at school)? What did you do?”
3. What kind of person do you think farmer Barney is?
4. What did Henrietta “learn” from the chickens?
5. On the last page, what is happening? What are her parents saying to Kim?

**After Reading** (activity to extend book experience):

1. If your child has siblings, start a conversation about teasing: “Has something like this ever happened to you? Have you ever teased your sibling like this?”
2. See if your child can figure out ways for siblings to be nicer to each other.
3. Do a chicken dance with your child!

Compliments of:

* This activity created by students at the University of Alaska Anchorage.

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