

Words
to Know

first

next

then

Retell a Story

Listen and chant.

The Little Duckling

Chant



First, the little duckling
Hatches in a nest.
Mother Duck says
He's not like the rest.



Next, the bigger ducklings
Don't want to play.
The little duckling cries.
Then, he runs away.



Finally, he's happy,
Swimming in the pond.
For now the little duckling
Has grown into a swan.



More Key Words

before



One comes **before** two.

inside



Books are **inside** this box.

shape



The **shape** of a ball is round.

size



My dad's shoes are not my **size**.

time



Seven o'clock is the **time** we wake up.

Talk Together

Work with a partner to use each **Key Word** in a sentence.

It is time for recess.

• Words to Know

Read a Story

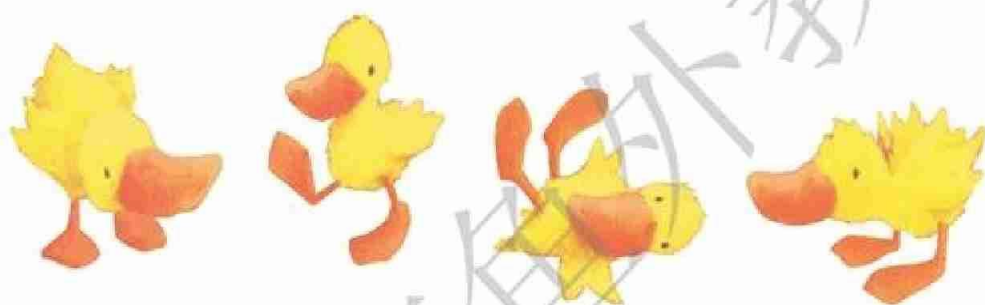
Who is in the story?



Ruby



Mother Duck
and Father Duck



Rufus, Rory, Rosie, and Rebecca

Reading Strategy

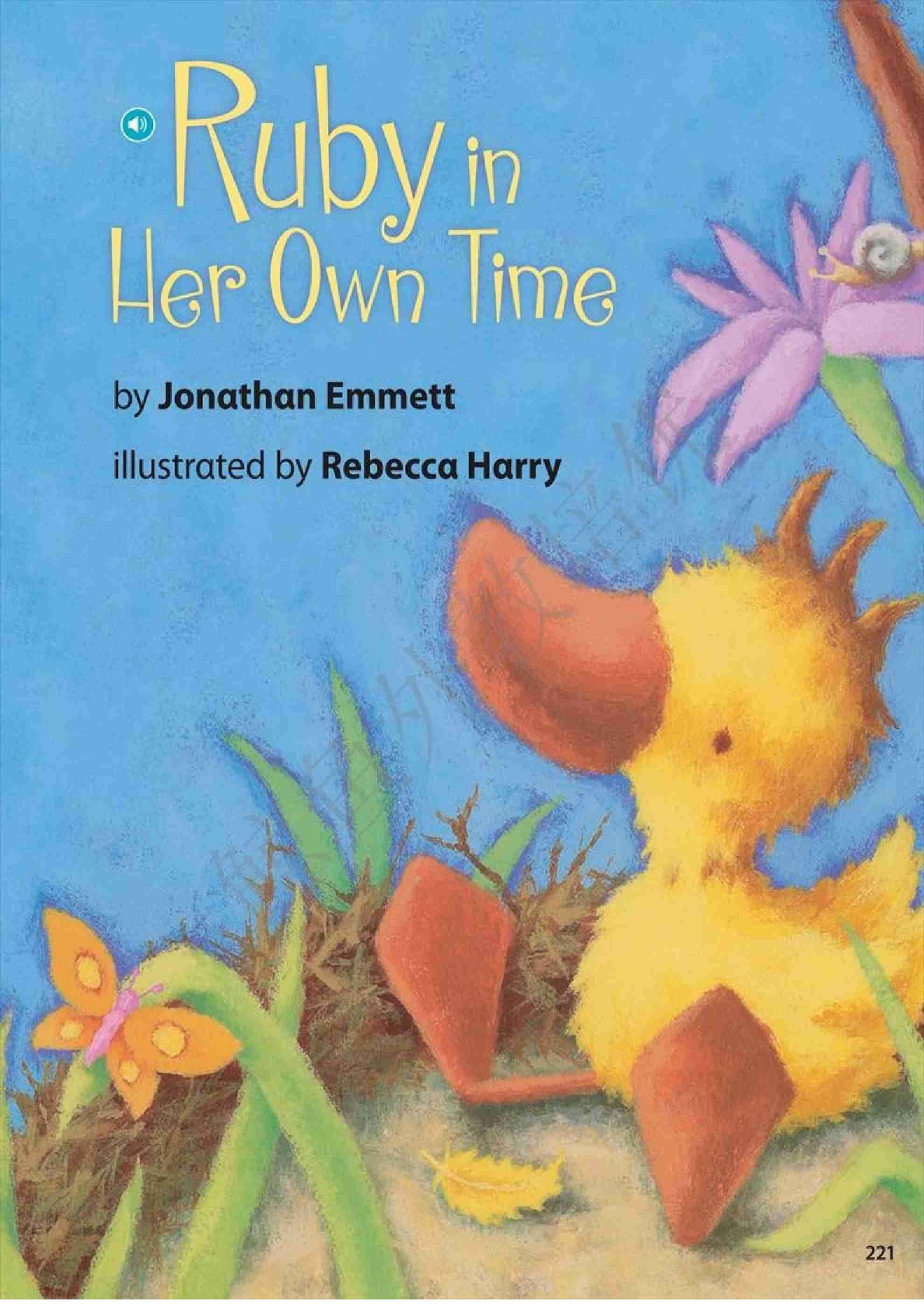
As you read, look at the text and pictures to **determine what is important** in the story.



Ruby in Her Own Time

by **Jonathan Emmett**

illustrated by **Rebecca Harry**

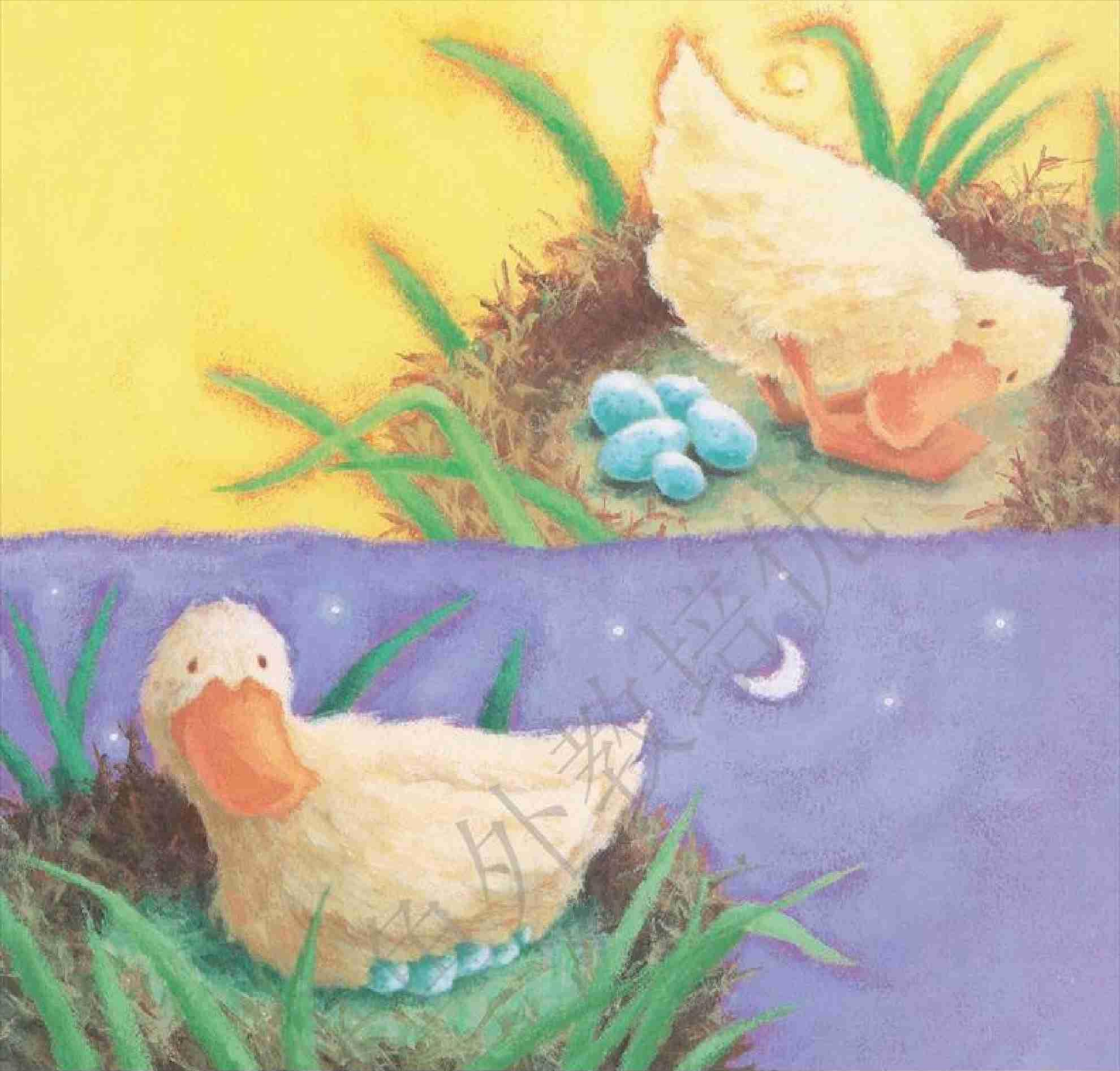




Once upon a **time** upon a **nest**,
there lived two ducks.



A mother duck and a father duck.



There were five **eggs** in the **nest**.
Mother Duck sat upon the nest
all day,
and all night,



in wind,
and in rain.



one



two

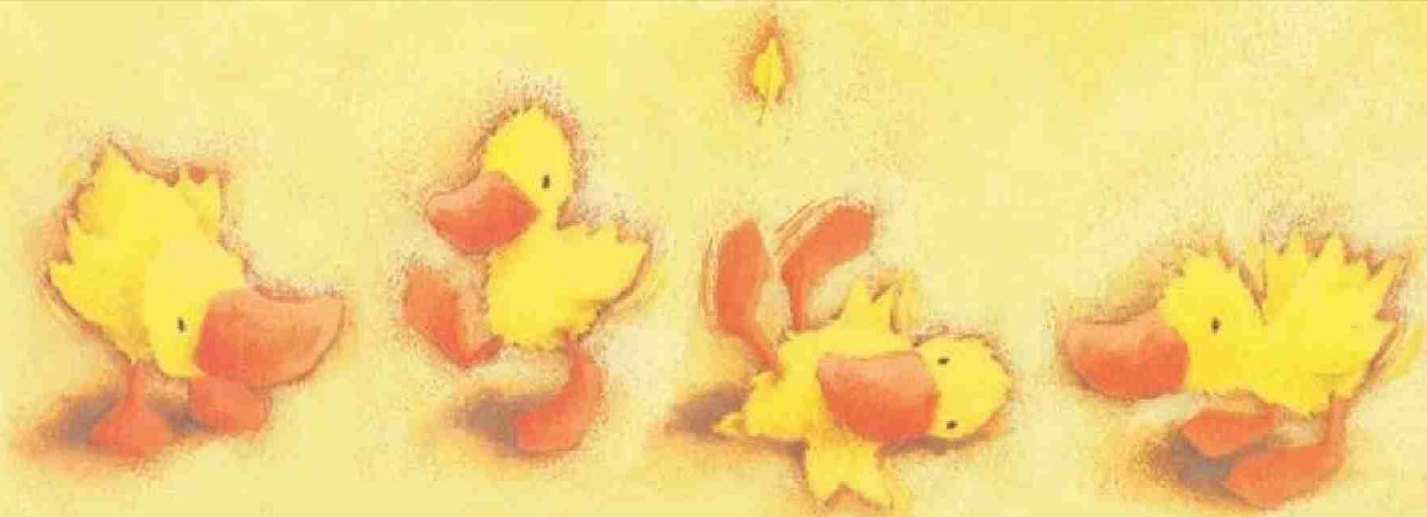


three



four

Then, one bright morning, the **eggs** began to **hatch**. Little beaks poked out into the sunlight.



one

two

three

four



"We'll call them Rufus, Rory, Rosie,
and Rebecca," said Father Duck.



But the fifth **egg** did nothing.
“Will it ever **hatch?**” asked
Father Duck.



"It will," said Mother Duck,
"in its own **time**."



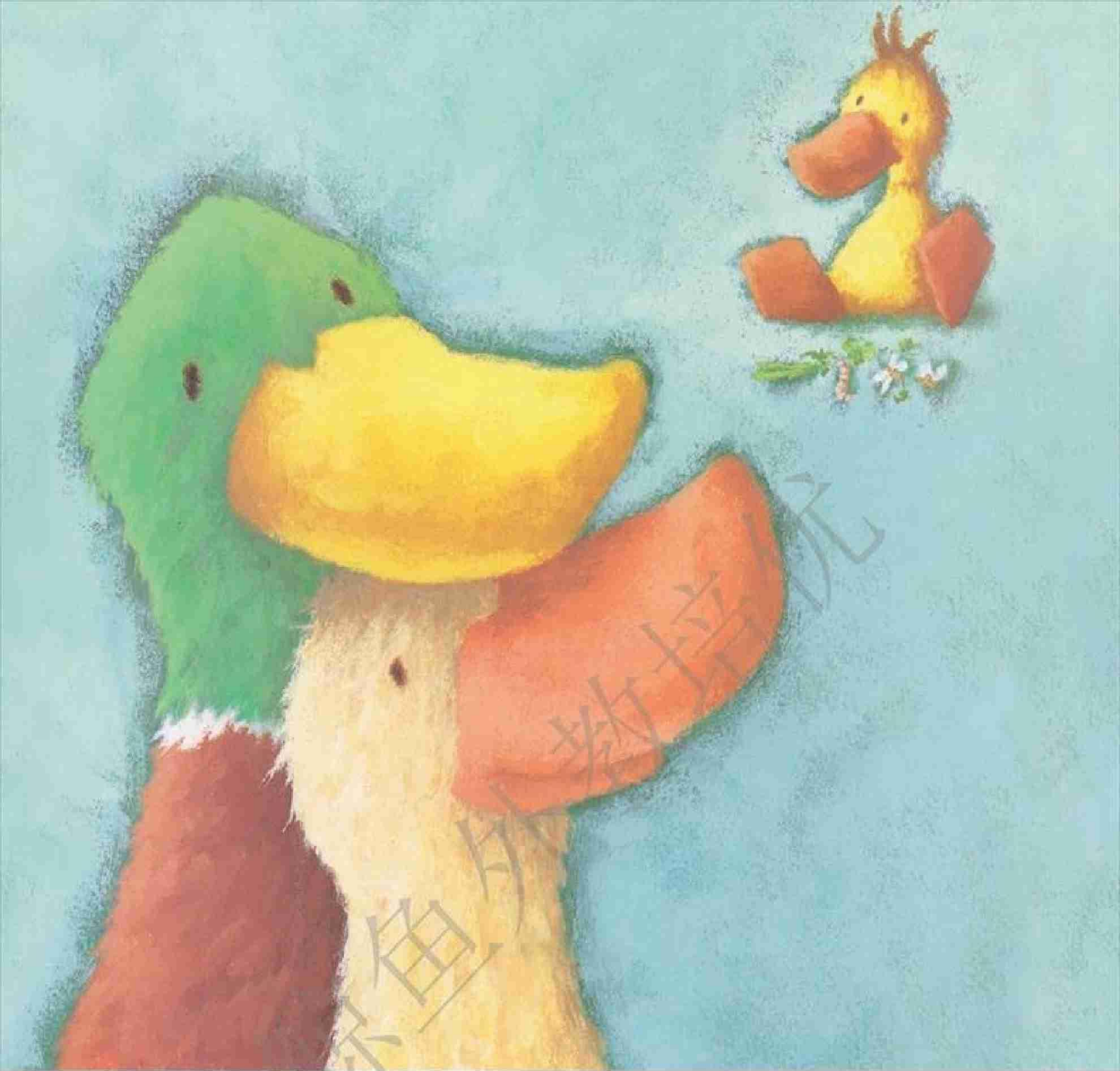
And it did.



“We’ll call her Ruby,” said
Mother Duck, “because she’s
small and precious.”



Rufus, Rory, Rosie, and Rebecca
ate whatever they were given.
But Ruby ate nothing.



"Will she ever eat?" asked
Father Duck.

"She will," said Mother Duck,
"in her own **time**."



And she did.

Rufus, Rory, Rosie, and Rebecca
swam everywhere.

But Ruby swam nowhere.



“Will she ever swim?” asked
Father Duck.

“She will,” said Mother Duck,
“in her own **time**.”



And she did.
Rufus, Rory, Rosie, and
Rebecca grew bigger.



And Ruby grew bigger, too.
And when Rufus, Rory, Rosie, and
Rebecca began to fly . . .



Ruby flew, too.



Rufus, Rory, Rosie, and Rebecca
flew far and wide. They flew up
among the trees.



But Ruby flew farther and wider.
She flew up above the trees.



She stretched out her beautiful wings. She flew high among the clouds.



Mother Duck and Father Duck
watched Ruby fly away.



“Will she ever come back?” asked Mother Duck.

“She will,” said Father Duck, “in her own **time.**”



And she did. ❖

Meet the Author

Jonathan Emmett

AWARD
WINNER

Jonathan Emmett liked to read books and write stories when he was growing up.

Mr. Emmett gets lots of ideas from things that happen in real life. He keeps the ideas on his computer. That way, he won't forget to use them!



Writing Tip



Find words that Jonathan Emmett repeats in the story. How does that make the story fun to read?

Talk About It



1. There are five **eggs**. Which egg is Ruby's?

The ____ egg is Ruby's.

2. What does it mean that Ruby does things in her own **time**?

It means ____.

3. What happens after Ruby's wings **grow**?

After Ruby's wings grow, she ____.

Write About It



Describe how Mother Duck and Father Duck feel about Ruby. How can you tell?

Mother Duck and Father Duck feel _____. They _____.



Identify Plot

What happens in this story? Use sequence words.

Beginning-Middle-End Chart

Beginning: First, Ruby hatches from an egg.
Middle:
End:



Use your chart to retell the story of "Ruby in Her Own Time." Act out the events in order as you retell.

Ruby is the last egg to hatch.

