



HEN LAKE

By Mary Jane Auch

Poulette is a dancer who challenges the pompous peacock Percival to a talent show. Poulette organizes the chickens in a production of Hen Lake. She encourages her fellow hens to develop self-respect and helps them celebrate their unique attributes.



WITS Connection: Talk it out

Questions and Activities



PRE-READING QUESTIONS

1. Based on what you see on the cover what do you think the story is all about?
2. Why are the hens dressed this way?
3. How is Hen Lake similar to another famous ballet?
4. What do we know about ballet?



POST-READING QUESTIONS

1. Why were the hens frustrated with Percival? *He bragged about how much better he was.*
2. Why do you think Percival bragged about himself to the hens? *He may have felt uncomfortable in a new setting. He may have wanted to be liked.*
3. What would you do if someone bragged about themselves or teased you?
4. How did the hens talk it out to work through their feelings? *Poulette showed them how to discover new things about themselves.*
5. How did Percival and the hens work together? *They put on a show.*
6. Who 'won' in the end? *They all did.*



POST-READING ACTIVITIES

- Find out more about author Mary Jane Auch on her website at www.mjauch.com/mj
- Ask students to draw and colour their favourite part of the story.
- Listen to Swan Lake and have students improvise a dance individually or with a partner.

Notes: