

MENTOR TEXT – BOOKLET 5

Our class had the coolest project this term! Instead of just reading about animals in books, we got to take care of one right in our classroom. It was a little baby chick, and we named him Pip. Mrs. Ramdeen brought Pip to our class when he was just a fluffy yellow ball. He lived in a special brooder box with a heat lamp to keep him warm. At first, he was really tiny and cheeped a lot. We were all so excited to see him!

Our class was divided into three groups, and each group had a job to help take care of Pip. My group was the “Feeding Fanatics.” Our job was to make sure Pip always had fresh water and chick feed. We learned that baby chicks need special food that’s full of tiny bits. It was fun to watch Pip peck at the food and drink little drops of water. He grew so fast in just one week!

Another group was the “Cleaning Crew.” Their job was to keep Pip's brooder box clean. They had to change the wood shavings every day, so Pip had a nice and tidy home. It was a bit smelly sometimes, but they did a great job! The “Observation Experts” were in charge of watching Pip and recording how he grew and lived. They kept a chart where they wrote down how much Pip ate, how much he slept, and how his feathers were changing. We learned that baby chicks grow really quickly and start to get their big feathers pretty fast.

Every day, we all got a chance to spend a little time with Pip. We would gently put our fingers near him, and sometimes he would even peck at them softly. We learned that baby chicks are very delicate and need to be handled with care. As the weeks went by, Pip got bigger and stronger. His fluffy yellow feathers started to be replaced by white ones. He started to chirp less and make little clucking sounds. It was amazing to see how much he had grown since he first came to our class.

At the end of the term, it was time for Pip to go to a real farm where he could run around in the grass with other chickens. We were a little sad to say goodbye, but we were also happy that he was going to a good home. Our class project with Pip was the best! We didn't just learn about chickens from a book; we got to see one grow and change right before our eyes. We learned about responsibility, caring for a living thing, and the amazing process of growth. Even though Pip is gone, we'll always remember our little classroom chick and all the fun we had taking care of him.

