

## Oral Reading Test

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- ▶ One day in the spring, David’s class gathered around a white plastic tub. Inside the tub were a bunch of wires and a yellow tray with holes in it.

“This is called an incubator,” their teacher, Mrs. Sampson, explained. She held up a handful of tiny brown eggs. “This month in science, we will use it to hatch quail eggs!” Everyone in the class started talking in excitement.

Mrs. Sampson assigned an egg to each student. She carefully labeled each one and placed it in the incubator. She said that the incubator helped the eggs hatch by keeping the temperature the same. It also turned the eggs every day. In sixteen days, Mrs. Sampson told the class, the quails would begin to hatch. She put a calendar next to the incubator so they could keep track of the days.

On the fifth day, Mrs. Sampson did something called candling. She turned the lights off in the classroom and lowered the shades. She held up a lamp to David’s egg. Inside, David could see something pink and cloudy-looking. That was his quail, growing inside the egg!

On the day the quails were supposed to hatch, David and the other students watched the incubator closely. Some eggs had already begun to hatch. David’s egg wasn’t one of them. He thought that maybe his quail wouldn’t live.

But the next day when David came into the classroom, he saw a tiny hole in his egg. His egg was hatching! During the day, David kept checking the incubator. By the time the bell rang, his chick was fully hatched. Mrs. Sampson removed the chicks from the incubator and put them in an empty aquarium with food and water. David couldn’t wait to see his quail grow up.