

# Chirping Chirp

by ReadWorks

It was a bright and sunny morning. Daniel woke up and jumped out of bed, ready for a full day outside. He ran down the stairs and sat down at the kitchen table. His mom was making pancakes: Daniel's favorite. She made pancakes every Saturday morning.

"What do you want to do today?" she asked Daniel.

"I think I'm going to go exploring in our backyard," he told her. "It's so nice outside!"

Daniel gobbled up his pancakes and rushed upstairs to get dressed. He put on a red t-shirt and jeans.

"Alright, Mom, I'll be back later!"

"Don't go too far!" she told him.

When he opened the door, Daniel felt a rush of warm air. He smiled at the sun. *Perfect hiking weather*, he thought. Daniel loved his backyard. There were plenty of tall trees. If he walked far enough, he would reach a creek. When it was really warm outside, he could walk in the water to cool off. The water was always cold.

The leaves were just beginning to grow on the trees after the cold winter. Daniel wandered for a bit. He picked up a long stick and used it to clear a way through the forest.

Suddenly, Daniel saw something in the distance that wasn't a rock or a leaf. When he got closer, he knelt down to investigate. He found a small injured bird between the fallen leaves. He looked around and saw a bird's nest sitting

on a branch. He carefully climbed up the trunk of the tree with the nest to get a closer look. The nest was empty, and he didn't see any birds around. Then, he ran back to his house.

"Mom, I found a bird that's hurt!" he told her as he ran through the door.

She looked for a shoebox, and then she said, "Well, let's go have a look."

Daniel led his mom back to the injured bird. His mom knelt down and looked carefully at it.

"Let's try to save it!" she said. She gently picked up the bird and put it in the shoebox. Then she said, "We can take it to the animal hospital in town."

They took the bird to the animal hospital. After a few days, the vet visited Daniel's house with the bird. It was healed. Daniel and his mom could hear the bird chirping when they opened the door.

The vet said, "The bird is ready to go back to its home in the trees."

Daniel was so excited. He looked at the bird and said, "I'm going to name you Chirp! I hope I can see you again. Bye, Chirp!"

# Clara and Phillip the Turtle

by ReadWorks



It's a hot summer's day, and Clara is outside on her back porch drinking lemonade. Her mom is in the backyard cutting the grass with a lawn mower. The lawn mower is loud, and Clara wishes her mom would play with her instead. But her mom says because it's been sunny and then rainy and then sunny again, the grass has had everything it needs to grow. Now it is very long and has to be cut.

Suddenly, the lawn mower turns off. Clara's mom looks upset. Clara wonders what is wrong. Her mom bends over and picks something up out of the grass, and walks over to the porch.

Clara's mom has a turtle in her hand! The turtle is small, and as Clara looks closer, she sees that one leg is at an odd angle. "I think I broke its leg,"

Clara's mom says. "I'm really very sorry. Will you help me nurse it back to health?"

Clara feels bad for the little turtle. Turtles move slowly, so it probably could not run away when it saw the lawn mower coming. And Clara's mom could not see the turtle in the long grass! It was a mistake, but Clara and her mom will make it right. Clara names the turtle Phillip.

Clara and her mom take Phillip the turtle to the veterinarian. The vet takes an x-ray of Phillip's leg, and confirms that it is broken. Phillip the turtle gets a little splint and bandage for his broken leg. The vet tells Clara that Phillip needs plants to eat and water to drink, plus a place to live. Clara and her mom buy a small tank at the pet store on the way home for the turtle to recuperate in.

At home, Clara takes good care of Phillip the turtle. She puts water and rocks in the tank. She brings him fruit and leaves to eat, and keeps his water bowl clean. Phillip seems to be in a better mood.

After eight weeks, Clara and her mom take Phillip back to the vet, who says that his leg is healed. Clara is both happy and sad. Happy because Phillip is better, but sad because she has to let him go now. When Clara gets home, she kisses Phillip's shell, says goodbye, and lets him go in the backyard. Clara will always remember Phillip.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Use the article "Chirping Chirp" to answer questions 1 to 2.**

1. Describe the bird that Daniel finds between fallen leaves. Use at least two details from the text in your description.

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2. Where do Daniel and his mom take the bird to help it? Support your answer with information from the story.

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**Use the article "Clara and Phillip the Turtle" to answer questions 3 to 4**

3. Describe the turtle in the hand of Clara's mom. Use at least two details from the text in your description.

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4. Where do Clara and her mom take the turtle to help it? Support your answer with information from the story.

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**Use the articles "Clara and Phillip the Turtle" and "Chirping Chirp" to answer questions 5 to 6.**

5. What is similar about the bird in "Chirping Chirp" and the turtle in "Clara and Phillip the Turtle"?

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6. The series of events that happen in a story is called the plot. What is similar about the plots of these stories?

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