

CONTEXT CLUES

- **Step 1: Reread and read ahead**

Stop and reread the words that come before and after the unfamiliar word.

- **Step 2: Identify context clues**

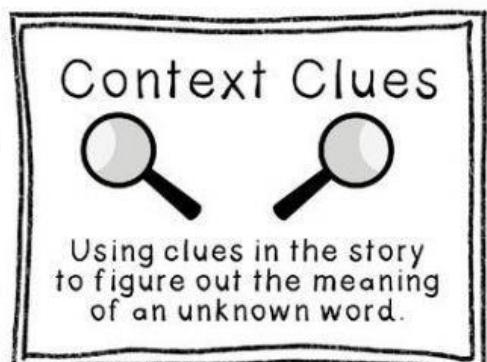
Think about the meaning of the words in the text that surround the unfamiliar word.

- **Step 3: Decide on a meaning**

Use what you know from the context to make a guess about the meaning of the unfamiliar word.

- **Step 4: Check that meaning in the context**

The meaning you decided on should make sense in the sentence and in relation to the main idea of the text.



“THE UGLY DUCKLING”

Hans Christian Andersen wrote the story of “The Ugly Duckling.” It tells about a small baby duck, called a duckling, who is a very ugly duck. He is not very happy because all the farm animals make fun of him. Then, one day the duckling grows up. He finds out he is not a duck, but a beautiful swan!

Below is part of the story.

The poor duckling, had crept out of his shell last of all. He looked so ugly! He was bitten and pushed and made fun of, not only by the ducks, but by all the poultry.



“He is too big,” they all said. The turkey, who fancied himself really an emperor, puffed himself out like a vessel in full sail. He flew at the duckling, and became quite red in the face with passion. The poor little duckling did not know where to go. He was quite miserable because he was so ugly and laughed at by the whole farmyard. So it went on from day to day till it got worse and worse. The poor duckling was driven about by everyone; even his brothers and sisters were unkind to him. They would say, “Ah, you ugly creature, I wish the cat would get

you." The ducks pecked him, the chickens beat him, and the girl who fed the poultry kicked him with her feet. So at last he ran away, frightening the little birds in the hedge as he flew off.

- Write the word that means almost the same thing as the underlined word. Use the rest of the sentence to help find the correct meaning.

1. "...made fun of, not only by the ducks, but by all the poultry."

A. vegetables B. birds C. clouds

2. "The turkey, who fancied himself really an emperor..."

A. ran B. dressed C. believed

3. "...puffed himself out like a vessel in full sail." A. ship B. cake C. goose

4. "...became quite red in the face with passion..."

A. sunrise B. rain C. anger

5. "was quite miserable because he was so ugly and laughed at..."

A. calm B. unhappy C. hungry

6. "...even his brothers and sisters were unkind to him..."

A. mean B. helpful C. asleep

7. "...would say, 'Ah, you ugly creature, I wish the cat would get you.'"

A. door B. animal C. apple

8. "So at last he ran away, frightening the little birds..."

A. writing B. feeding C. scaring