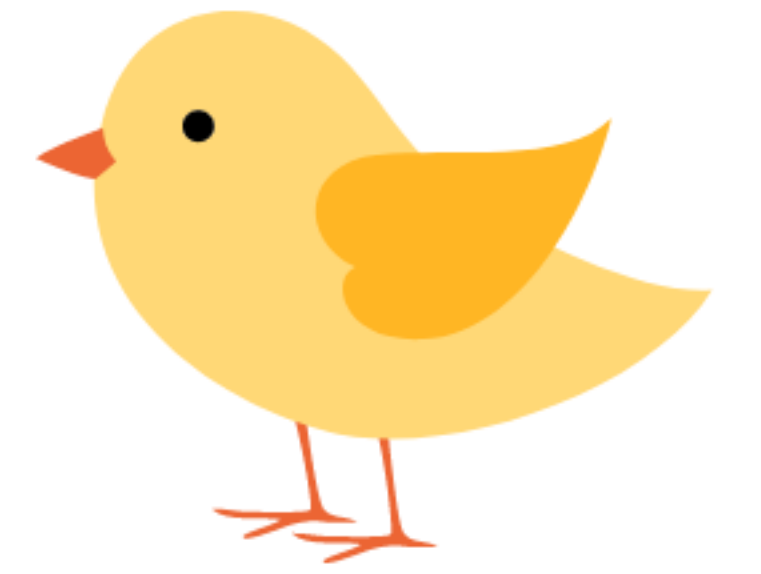




Teacher Resource Guide

Just Right Jillian



Fifth grader Jillian will do just about anything to blend in, including staying quiet even when she has the right answer. After she loses a classroom competition because she won't speak up, she sets her mind on winning her school's biggest competition. When a bully tells her she can never be a winner, she determines to prove, not only that she's smart, but brave, too. As you can imagine, breaking out of her shell is easier said than done. Jillian has less than a month to overcome a lifetime of shyness and summon the courage to fight for herself.

Nicole D. Collier grew up just south of Atlanta, GA, the only child of an accountant and a public school librarian.

She is a proud graduate of Florida A&M University (FAMU) where she earned a B.S. in Journalism. She also earned an M.S. in Elementary Education from Florida State University (FSU), and a Ph.D. in Learning, Design and Technology from the University of Georgia (UGA).

After a brief stint in the journalism field, Nicole has spent the past two decades in education – first as an elementary teacher and now as a partner in an executive training, coaching and consulting firm. She combines her love of creativity and learning, as she partners with leaders to challenge old thinking and inspire lasting change.

An advocate of self-expression, Nicole's stories often tackle the challenges and lessons that come when learning to be true to yourself. **Just Right Jillian** is Nicole's debut novel.

Did You Know?

Chickens do not take baths with soap and water. Instead, they take dust baths!



Did You Know?

There are more chickens in the world than humans!

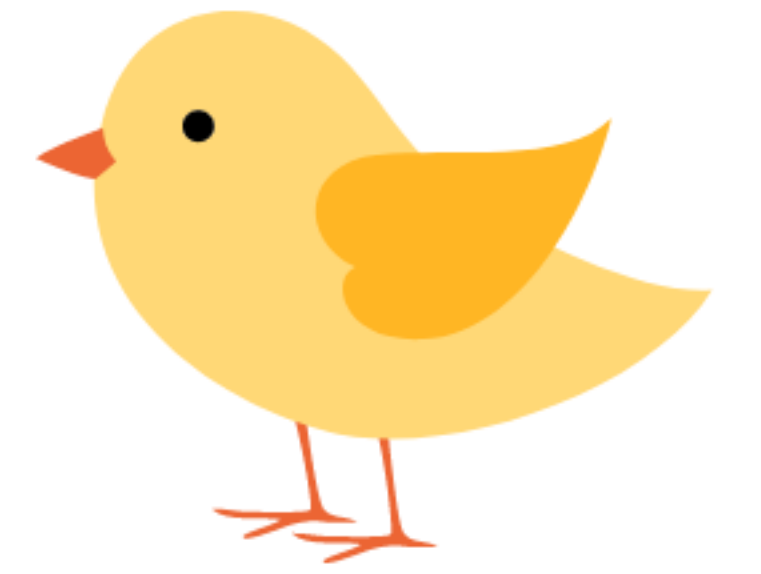


Did You Know?

Chickens can run at a top speed of 9 miles per hour!



Just Right Jillian



Just Right Jillian has themes of courage, bravery, friendship, empathy, and self-expression. As students discuss possible themes in the book, have students look for evidence in the story to support these themes.

Text-to-Text Connections - Have students brainstorm other books they have read with similar themes. How are they similar? How are they different?

Text-to-Self Connections - Have students think about a time in their lives when they have been afraid to speak up or a time when they maybe didn't feel very courageous. Also have students think about a time when they made judgements or assumptions about a person and then once they got to know that person, their opinion changed.

Common Core Standards

(List of standards covered in this guide)

3rd Grade:
ELA RL 3.1, 2, 3, 4, 9;
W 3.2.A-D; SL 3.4

4th Grade:
ELA RL 4.1, 2, 3, 4, 9
W 4.2.A-E; SL 4.4

5th Grade:
ELA RL 5.1, 2, 3, 4, 9;
W 5.2.A-E; SL 5.4

6th Grade:
ELA RL 6.1, 2, 3, 4, 9;
W 6.2.A-D, F; SL 6.4

7th Grade:
ELA RL 7.1, 2, 3, 4;
W 7.2, A-D, F; SL 7.4

Did You Know?

Hens can lay over 300 eggs per year.



Did You Know?

Chickens do not sweat, mostly due to their feathers.



Did You Know?

Mother hens turn their eggs roughly 50 times per day to prevent the yolk from sticking to the shell.



Just Right Jillian

by Nicole D. Collier

Just Right Jillian may contain words that are new for you. Use this list as a bookmark and while you are reading, use context clues to investigate the meanings of these words. Since some of the vocabulary in the book is specific to chick hatching, you may need to look up some of the definitions. On the back of the bookmark, write down other new words you find in the book.

accurate
advocates
blastoderm
decorum
dilemma
embryos
exception
fidgety
horrified
incubator
lurch
melodic
membranes
momentum
neutral
optometrist
poise
porous
scowled
smidge
snarky
throbbed
trudged



Just Right Jillian

by Nicole D. Collier

Just Right Jillian may contain words that are new for you. Use this list as a bookmark and while you are reading, use context clues to investigate the meanings of these words. Since some of the vocabulary in the book is specific to chick hatching, you may need to look up some of the definitions. On the back of the bookmark, write down other new words you find in the book.

accurate
advocates
blastoderm
decorum
dilemma
embryos
exception
fidgety
horrified
incubator
lurch
melodic
membranes
momentum
neutral
optometrist
poise
porous
scowled
smidge
snarky
throbbed
trudged



Just Right Jillian

by Nicole D. Collier

Just Right Jillian may contain words that are new for you. Use this list as a bookmark and while you are reading, use context clues to investigate the meanings of these words. Since some of the vocabulary in the book is specific to chick hatching, you may need to look up some of the definitions. On the back of the bookmark, write down other new words you find in the book.

accurate
advocates
blastoderm
decorum
dilemma
embryos
exception
fidgety
horrified
incubator
lurch
melodic
membranes
momentum
neutral
optometrist
poise
porous
scowled
smidge
snarky
throbbed
trudged



MY OBSERVATIONS

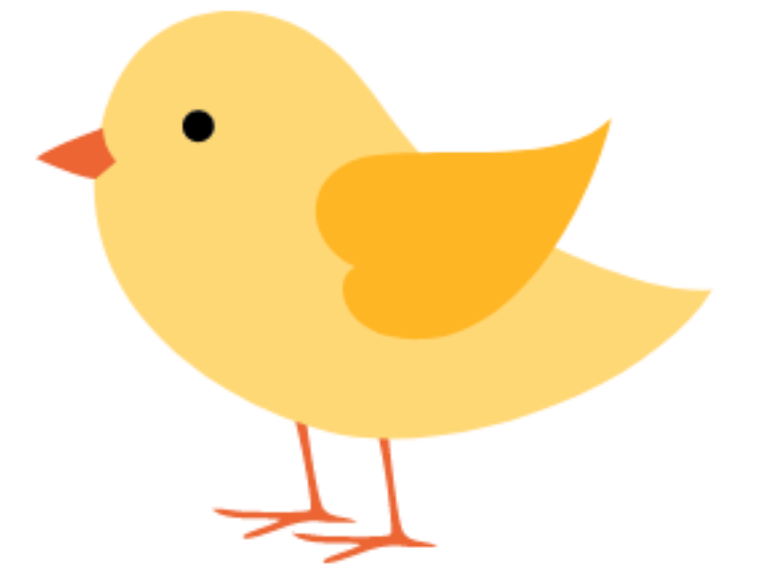
Just like Jillian and her classmates recorded their observations of the chicks each day, it's your turn to keep an observation journal. Choose something that you want to observe every day for 21 days (about the length of time it takes a chick to hatch)...it could be something outside in nature, it could be an experiment you set up, it could be a family member you want to get to know better. As you observe, think about these three questions...

- What do you think?
- What do you wonder?
- What do you hope?

Note: You can make multiple copies of this page for your observations, or you can record your observations in a journal.

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | | |
| | | |

Just Right Jillian


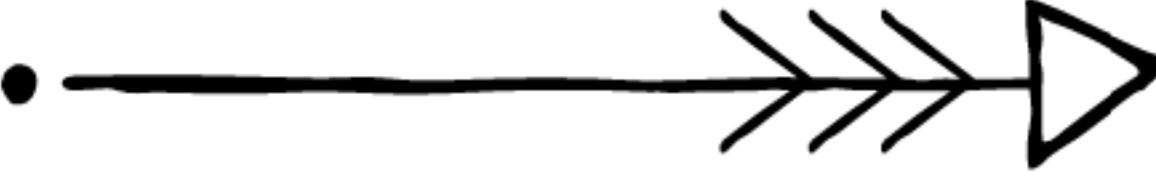
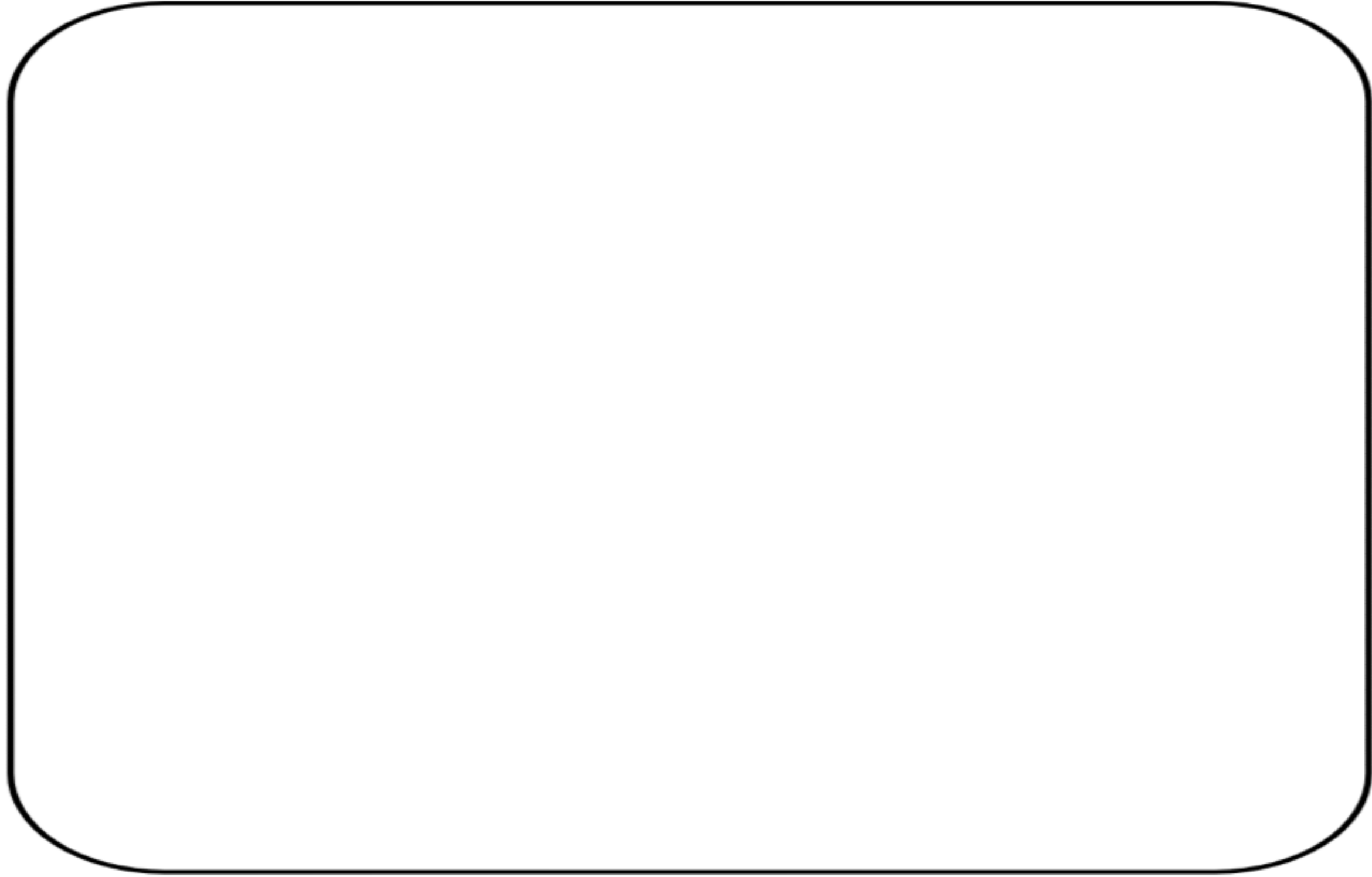

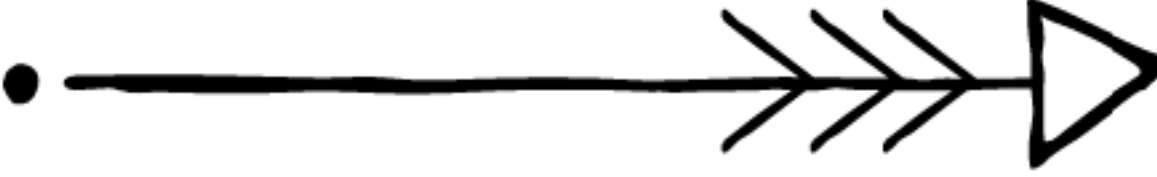
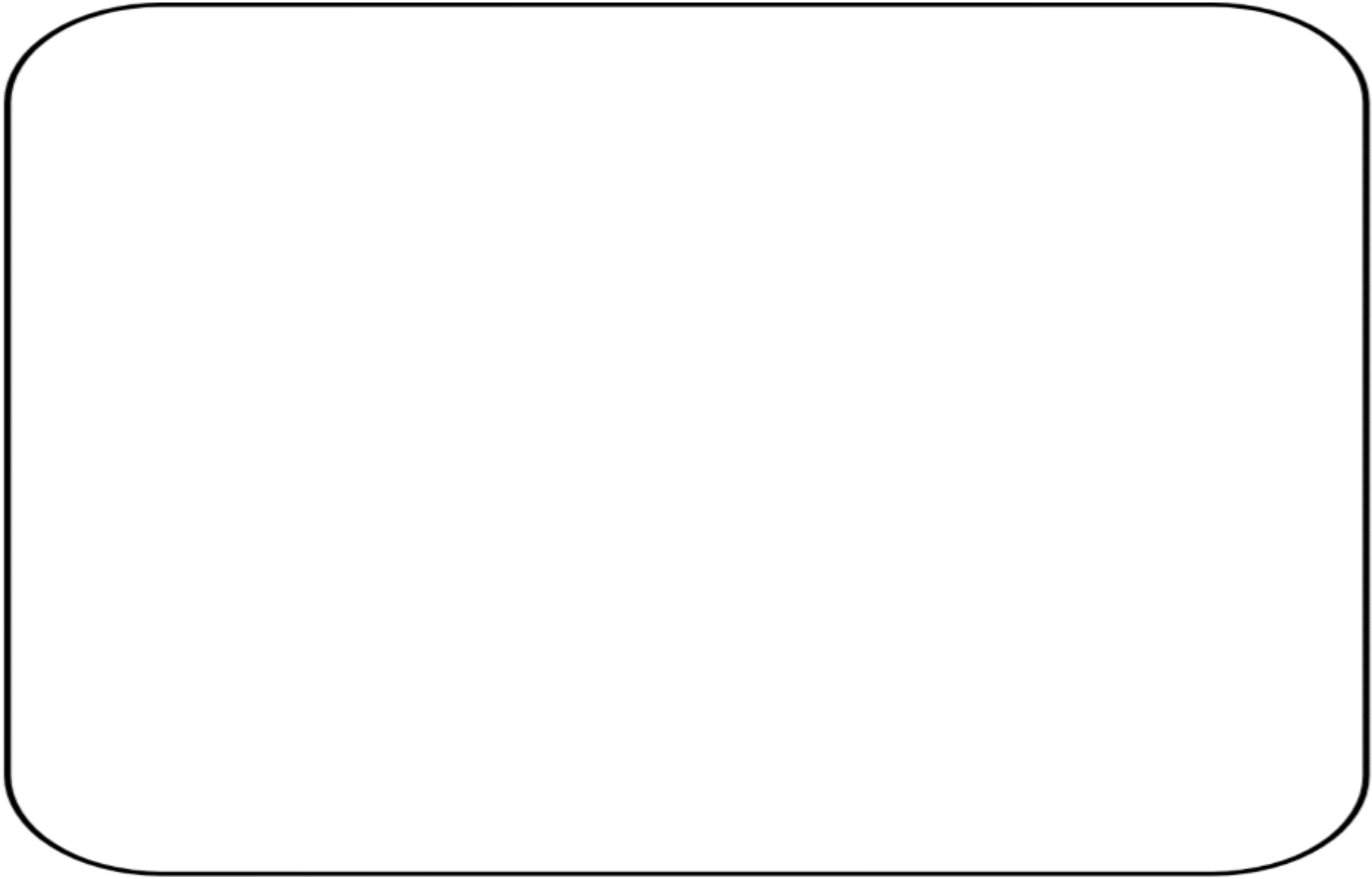


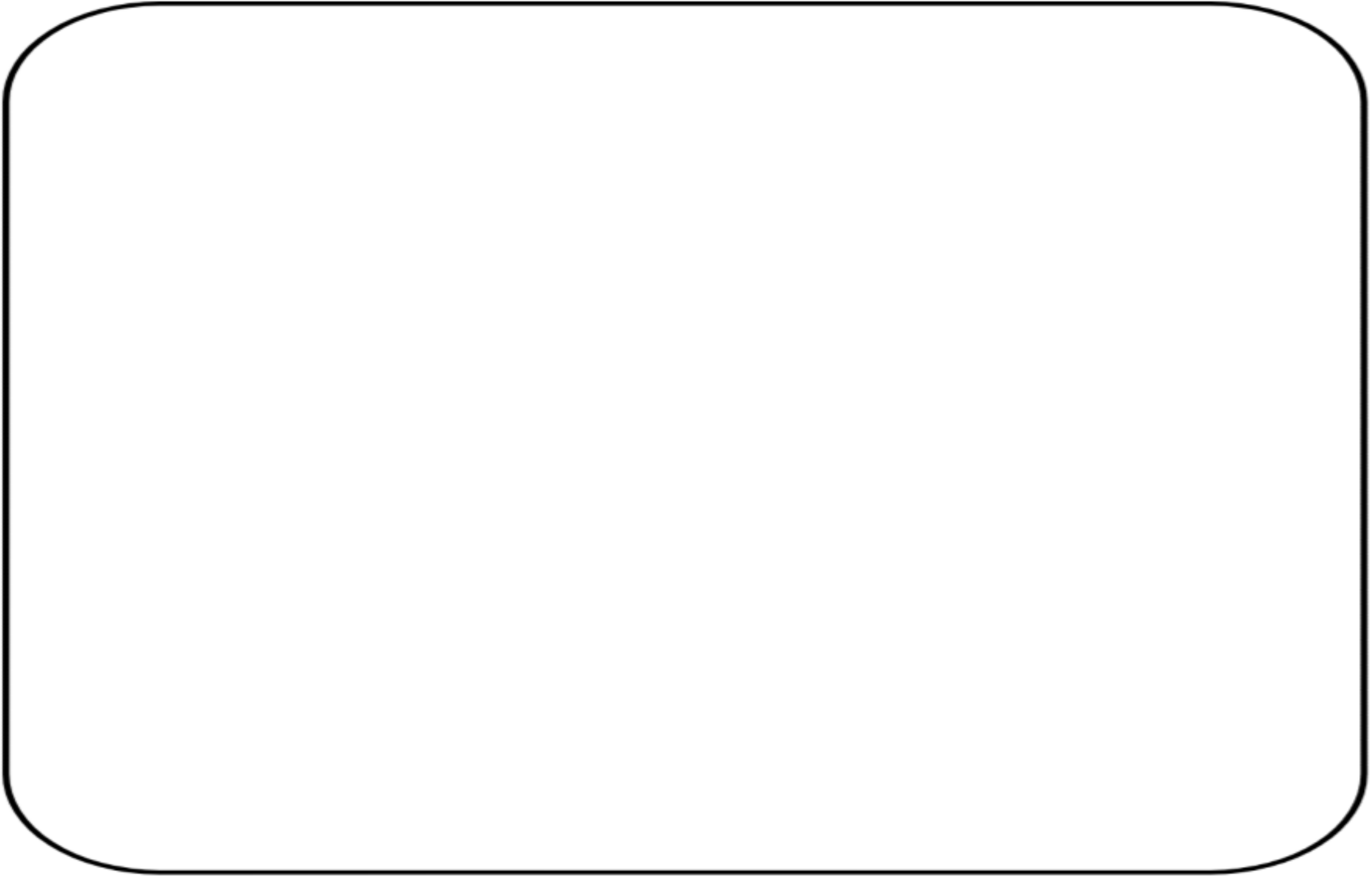


“Chickens, just like plants and people, grow when they’re ready.”

Extended Metaphor: A metaphor (compares two things) is introduced in a story and then further developed throughout the whole story.

In **Just Right Jillian** there is an extended metaphor comparing the incubation process of the chicks with Jillian’s growth. Use the space below to think of specific steps in the chick’s journey to hatching and how they compare to moments in Jillian’s growth.

Example: Can you think of things Jillian said or did that would be similar to when a chick pips, zips, and escapes?

| | | |
|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

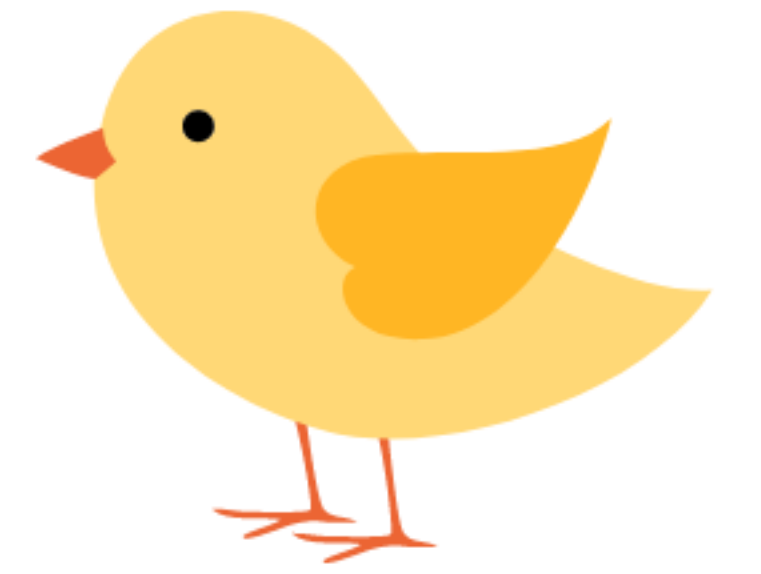
How to Incubate Eggs

A How to Guide

In **Just Right Jillian**, Jillian and her classmates learn all about how to incubate eggs. Now it's your turn to teach someone else what you learned while reading. Use the space below to create a mini graphic novel teaching someone how to incubate eggs.

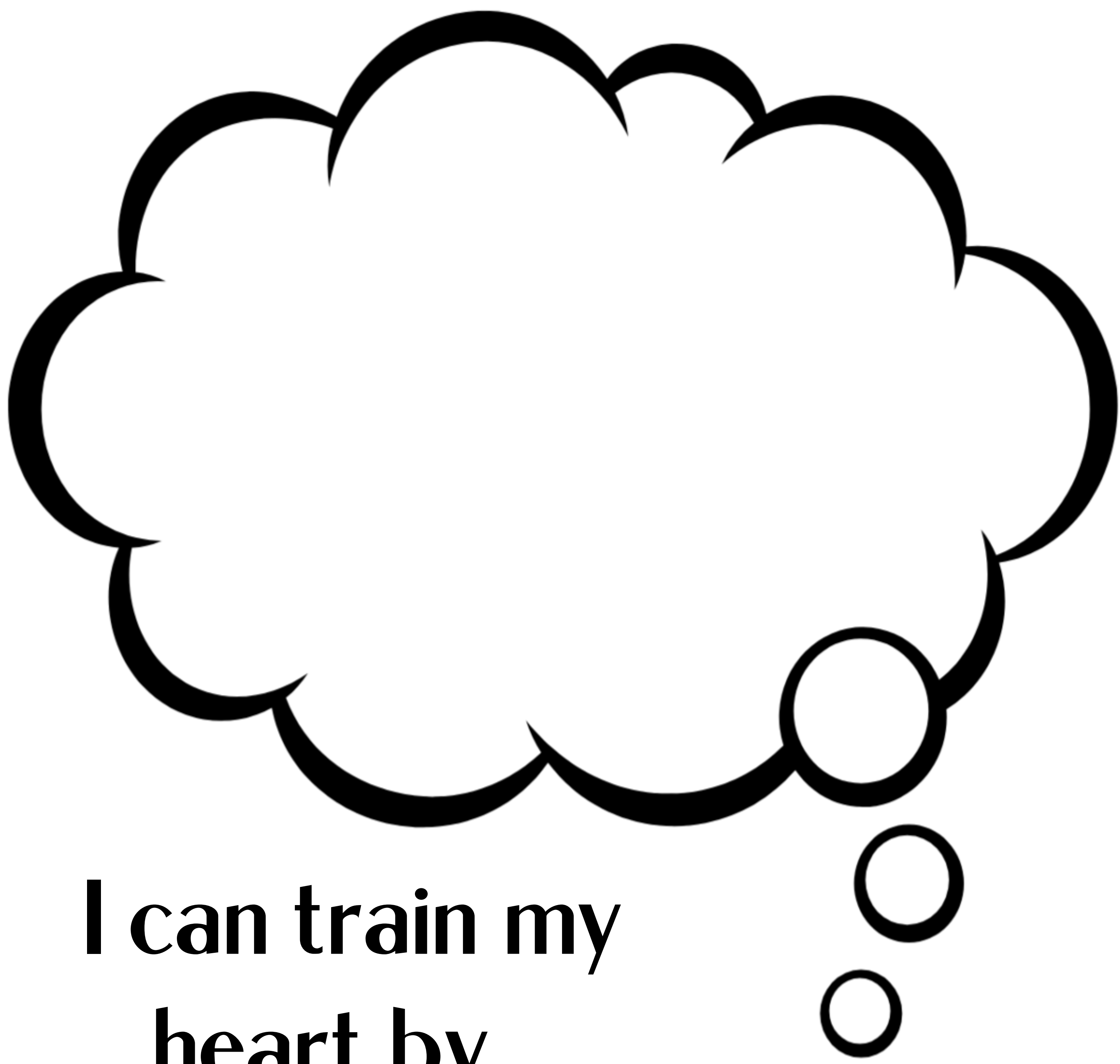
| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | | |
| | | | |

Just Right Jillian



Jillian is nervous about speaking up and speaking out, but she's reminded that she needs to, "**Train your heart, speak your mind.**" How can **YOU** train your heart so that when it's time to speak your mind you're ready?

With a partner, brainstorm ways you can train your heart and then pick 1-2 ideas and try them out.



Get Crafty!

With just a few simple supplies you can create and use your very own loom. A simple YouTube search (ask permission from a grown-up first!) for "DIY cardboard loom" will give you several how to videos. With these supplies, you'll be weaving in no time and you can be inspired by Jillian's creations to make something of your own!

Supplies:

Cardboard
String
Pencil
Fine point Sharpie
Pair of scissors
Ruler
Yarn

"Weaving is your something. It's how you express yourself."

Research

There are a lot of interesting topics that come up in **Just Right Jillian**. Choose one of these topics that you find interesting (or choose something else from the book) and do your own research. Then find a creative way to share what you've learned with our class.

Astigmatism

Nit -
Egyptian
goddess

Harlem
Renaissance
Lupus