LITTLE CHICK'S STORY

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An Early I CAN READ Book
Broody Hen laid five eggs.
She laid one egg in the hen house for the farmer's son.
She laid one egg in the barn for the farmer's daughter.
She laid one egg in the meadow for the ring-tailed raccoon.
And she hid one egg in the violets for the Easter rabbit.
“One, two, three, four,”
counted Broody Hen.
Then she laid one more egg.
“This one is for me,” she said.
And she fluffed out her feathers
and sat down on her egg.
She sat on it all day in the sun.
She sat on it all night in the dark.
She sat on her egg
when the wind blew
and when it rained.
And she clucked
a little hatching-out song.

“My chick-a-dee, my chick-a-dee,
my golden, downy chick-a-dee,
the sun is warm,
the wind blows free,
hatch out for me, my chick-a-dee.”
And then one sunny, windy day her egg hatched open.

And out came Little Chick.
Little Chick looked around her.
She looked up at Broody Hen.
"I'm hungry," said Little Chick.
"Eat, my chick-a-dee," said Broody Hen, as she scratched up chicken feed.
Little Chick ran behind her, pecking and eating, until her stomach was full.
In the evening Little Chick crept under Broody Hen’s wing. She peeked out at the dark and the stars, and said, “Tell me a story, Broody Hen.” And Broody Hen did.
“Once upon a time,” she said, “there was a golden, downy Little Chick. She ate lots of chicken feed and ran about in the sun and the wind.
And she grew strong and big
until she was a strong,
big Broody Hen.
Then she laid five eggs.
She laid one egg in the hen house
for the farmer's son.
She laid one egg in the barn for the farmer’s daughter.
She laid one egg in the meadow for the ring-tailed raccoon.
And she hid one egg
in the violets
for the Easter rabbit.
Then that Little Chick,
grown strong and big
as a Broody Hen,
counted *One, two, three, four.*
And then she laid
one more egg...."
“Just for herself?”
asked Little Chick.
“Yes,” said Broody Hen,
“just for herself.”
Then Little Chick snuggled up close to her mother.
And in the dark night, under the stars,
Little Chick went to sleep.