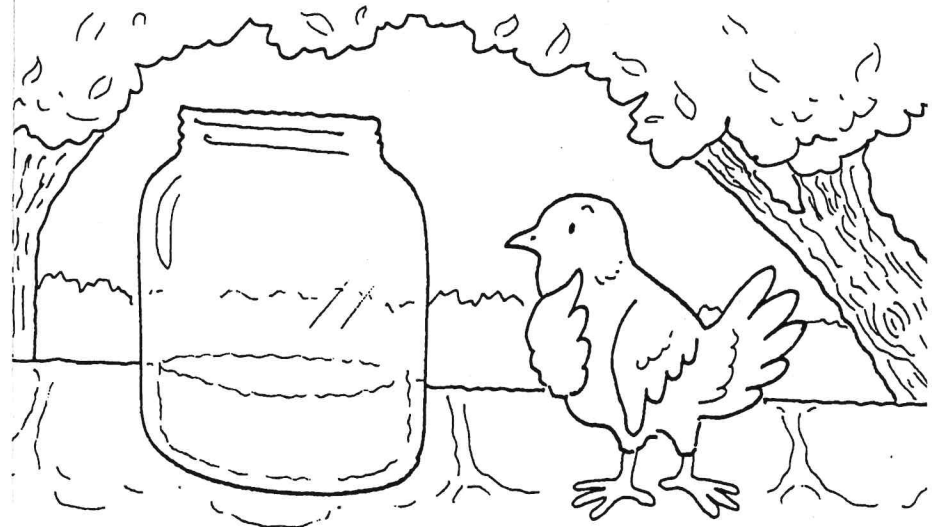


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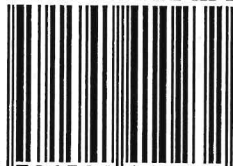
ng (sing)  
 nk (drink)  
 ph (phone)

# The Bird Who Wanted to Sing



written by Lucy Floyd  
 illustrated by Laura Rader

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Grade 2, Decodable Reader 9  
 First used in Lesson 52

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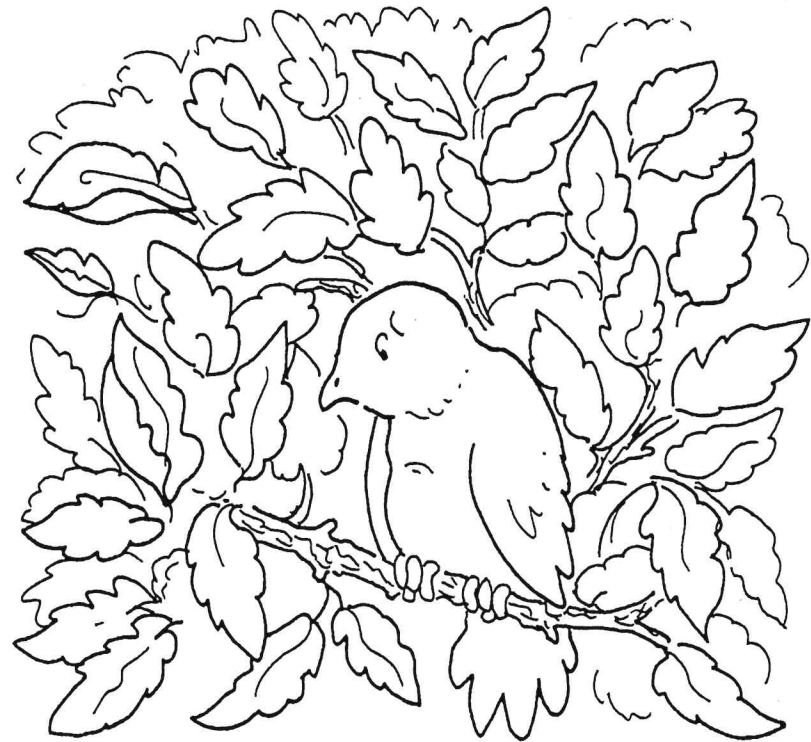
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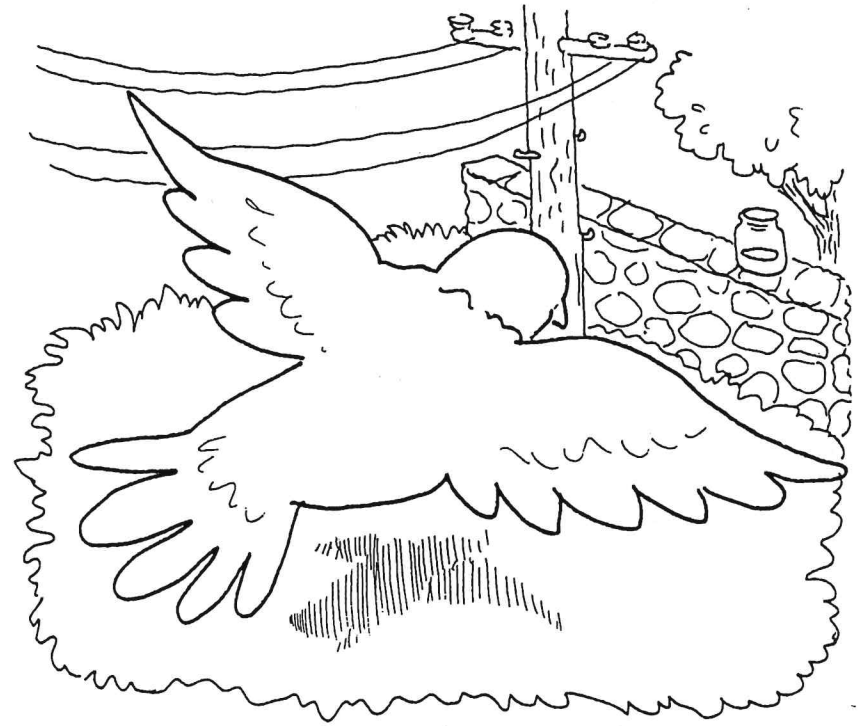
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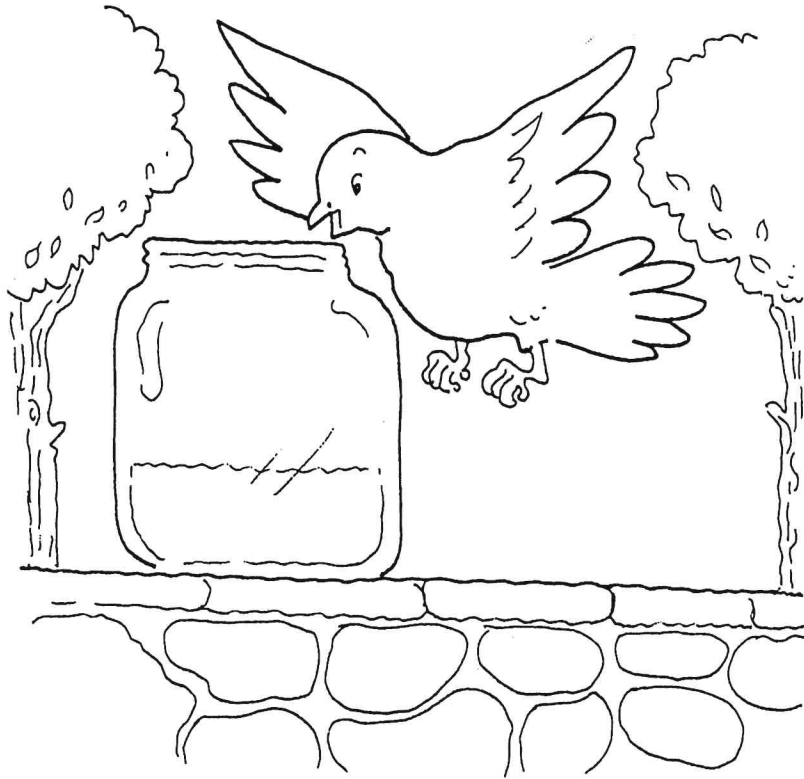


"I feel so dry!" Phil said. "That is why I cannot sing! I must get a drink."

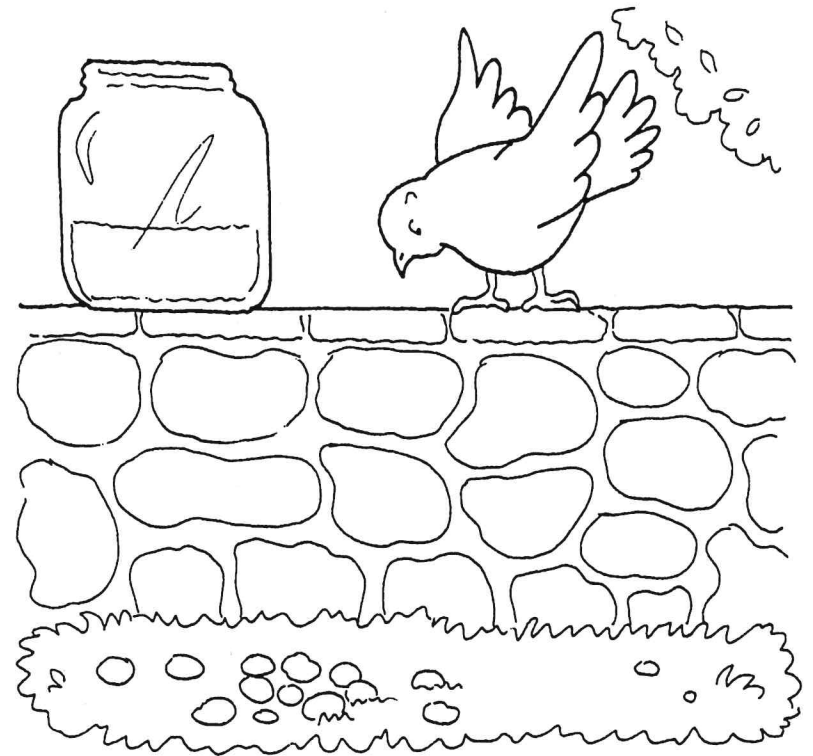


Phil went by a long phone line. He could see something.

"What's that?" Phil chirped. "I think it is a jar of milk!"



Phil put his bill in the jar. But he could not get to the milk! His bill was much too short.



"I think I see some pebbles," said Phil. "They are just the thing I need!"



Phil put one pebble in the jar.  
The milk rose just a little.  
"I'll bring one more," said Phil.



Phil kept on bringing pebbles  
to the jar. The milk kept going  
up and up, a little at a time.  
"I think I can drink it!"  
said Phil.



At last, Phil had plenty of milk to drink. "Thank you, milk!" he said. Then he sang a long, sweet song.

**The End**

### Understanding the Story

Questions are to be read aloud by a teacher or parent.

1. Why was Phil not able to sing?
2. Phil could not drink the milk at first. Why not?
3. What did Phil do with the pebbles?
4. When was Phil able to drink the milk?
5. Do you think Phil was a smart bird? Why or why not?

Answers: 1. Possible answer: because he was thirsty 2. because his bill was too short and he couldn't reach the milk in the jar 3. put them into the jar 4. when the pebbles made the milk rise high enough 5. Possible answer: yes, because he figured out how to solve the problem

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