Mother Duck sat on the big egg for a few The little yellow ducklings made fun of the more days. Finally, it cracked open. Out popped new bird. a big bird. “You do not look like us,” they said. “You are “Oh!” said Mother Duck. “You do not look like big and gray. You are an ugly duckling.” my other ducklings, but I am your mother, and This made the new bird very sad. I love you.” “You do not look like my other ducklings,” said Mother Duck, “but I am your mother, and I love you.”

Then he tried the farmyard. “Will you play with me?” he asked. “No, no,” said the horses. “You are too ugly.” “No,” said the pigs, and they laughed at him. The sad, ugly duckling went back to the farm pond. The ugly duckling looked for someone to play with. He went to the farm pond. “Will you swim with me?” he asked. “No,” said the ducklings. “You are too ugly.” “No,” said the frogs and turtles. “You are an ugly duckling.”

Soon, the ugly duckling found a small pond. No one could say he was ugly. No one could make fun of him. “No one will play with me,” he said to Mother Duck. “I am too ugly.” “You do not look like the other ducklings,” said Mother Duck, “but I am your mother, and I love you.” But the ugly duckling was not happy. So he flew away.

Time passed, and the ugly duckling grew up. His wings were wider. His neck was longer. His feathers had turned white. He had changed, but he did not know it. Then one day, two big white birds flew over the pond. “What beautiful birds!” thought the ugly duckling. “I hope they stop to visit. I am lonely.” The birds flew lower and lower and landed in the pond with a splash. 10 11

“Hello,” said the ugly duckling. “Who are you?” The ugly duckling looked down at the water. “We are swans,” said the big white birds, “You are right!” he cried. “I am “just like you.” a beautiful swan!” “I am not a swan,” said the ugly duckling. “I am an ugly duckling.” The swans laughed. “Look down at the water,” they said. “What do you see?” 1 1

The ugly duckling was very happy to be a “I am the ugly duckling!” cried the swan. beautiful swan. He flew off at once to visit All the animals said, “You are too beautiful to the farm. be the ugly duckling.” “Hello,” he said. “Do you remember me?” “I grew up to be a beautiful swan,” “No!” said the ducks. he said. “No, no!” said the frogs and turtles. All the animals were happy to be with such a beautiful bird. “We’ve never seen you before,” sniffed the horses and pigs. 1 1

Then the swan saw Mother Duck. The Ugly “Hello! I am your ugly duckling,” he said. Duckling Mother Duck did not care if he was a duckling or a swan. She said, “You do not The Play look like my other ducklings, but I am your mother, and I love you.” Characters Narrator Mother Duck Ugly Duckling Ducks Swans 1 1

Narrator Mother Duck One day, a mother duck felt her eggs Oh! You do not look like my other begin to shake. One by one, the eggs ducklings, but I am your mother, cracked open. Eight yellow ducklings and I love you. poked out their heads. Narrator Ducks The little yellow ducklings made fun Peep, peep. of the new bird. Mother Duck Ducks Quack, quack! You do not look like us. You are big and gray. You are an ugly duckling! Narrator But one egg did not crack—one very Narrator big egg. Mother Duck sat on the big This made the new bird very sad. egg for a few more days. Finally, it cracked open. Out popped a big bird. 1 1

Mother Duck Mother Duck You do not look like my other You do not look like my other ducklings, but I am your mother, ducklings, but I am your mother, and and I love you. I love you. Narrator Narrator The ugly duckling looked for But the ugly duckling was not happy. someone to play with. He went So he flew away to a small pond. to the farm pond. Time passed, and the ugly duckling grew up. His wings were wider. His Ugly Duckling neck was longer. His feathers had Will you swim with me? turned white. He had changed, but he did not know it. Then one day, Ducks two big white birds flew over No, you are too ugly. the pond. Ugly Duckling Ugly Duckling No one will play with me. I am What beautiful birds! I hope they too ugly. stop to visit. I am lonely. 0 1

Narrator Narrator The birds flew lower and lower and The ugly duckling was very landed in the pond with a splash. happy to be a beautiful swan. He flew off at once to visit Ugly Duckling the farm. Hello. Who are you? Ugly Duckling Swans Hello. Do you remember me? We are swans, just like you. Ducks Ugly Duckling No! I am not a swan. I am an ugly duckling. Ugly Duckling I am the ugly duckling! Swans Look down at the water. Ducks What do you see? You are too beautiful to be the ugly duckling. Narrator The ugly duckling looked down Ugly Duckling at the water. I grew up to be a beautiful swan. Ugly Duckling You are right! I am a beautiful swan!

Narrator All the animals were happy to be with such a beautiful bird. Then the swan saw Mother Duck. Ugly Duckling Hello! I am your ugly duckling. Mother Duck You do not look like my other ducklings, but I am your mother, and I love you.