

---

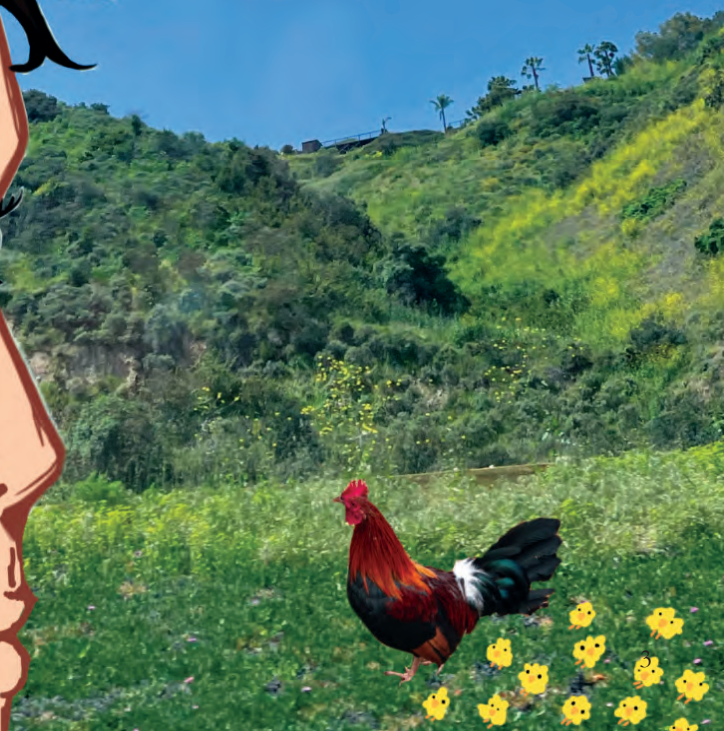
# Ethan's Egg Business

By Ethan Burton

Jennifer Crane, Teacher  
Plaza School

GLENN COUNTY

Illustrated by:  
Millikan High School





“Cock-a-doodle-do!” alerted Ronald the Rooster. When he heard Ronald, Ethan sprung out of his bed. It was early on one bright and sunny morning on his egg farm. Ethan’s egg farm was located on a hilly road outside of the town of Evensburrow, California. It was a brilliantly laid-out farm, where everything was in its place. All six of the henhouses were in neat rows, each painted baby blue with green trim. Ethan heard loud sounds coming from a rooster that was not supposed to be on his farm.



Ethan was a 9-year-old boy that had jumped into his lucky overalls and blue shirt. His dark black hair was messy from getting up so early.




Ethan headed to the egg barn, and he saw Ronald the Rooster hanging out with his hens. Ronald was bossy and mean. He was very colorful with a bright comb on his head. Ronald should have been at Farmer Fred and Farmer Fern Fieldstone's farm, not Ethan's!

“Get off my farm, Ronald, and GO HOME!” screamed Ethan. Ethan chased after Ronald, while Ronald tried to peck and dig at him with his spurs.





A vibrant illustration of a farm scene. In the background, a large red barn with a white 'X' on its door stands under a clear blue sky. In the foreground, a man with a beard, wearing a blue cap, a turquoise shirt, and blue overalls, stands next to a young girl. The girl is wearing a light green and white striped dress and a straw hat. To the right, a rooster with brown and black feathers is visible. The ground is green grass.

Ethan was able to get Ronald back to the Fieldstones' farm just as Farmer Fred and Farmer Fern were coming out of their large teal farmhouse where the Fieldstones raised their sheep on their enormous sheep farm.

“What is going on?” asked Farmer Fred. Farmer Fred was wearing tattered overalls and a turquoise button-down shirt. Right next to him was Farmer Fern. She was wearing a light green and white striped dress and a straw hat perched on her head.

“Ronald was at my farm again, fertilizing the eggs,” replied a frustrated Ethan.

“And I can’t sell my eggs if they are fertilized because people don’t want what would have been a baby chick in the eggs they are going to eat!” explained Ethan.

Ethan huffed as he hurried back to his farm to check on his White Leghorn hens. They were the most common egg layer in California. As Ethan peeked into the henhouse, he saw most of his hens sitting on their nests.



Ethan headed back into his home to make breakfast before he finished his chores. Ethan knew that eggs contain 13 vitamins and minerals, and are a good source of protein to start his day. As Ethan cracked the shiny white egg open into the frying pan, he noticed that the egg had a little red dot in it. That meant it might be fertilized!

“Darn that Ronald!” exclaimed Ethan. “I have to come up with a plan to deal with Ronald,” mumbled Ethan.

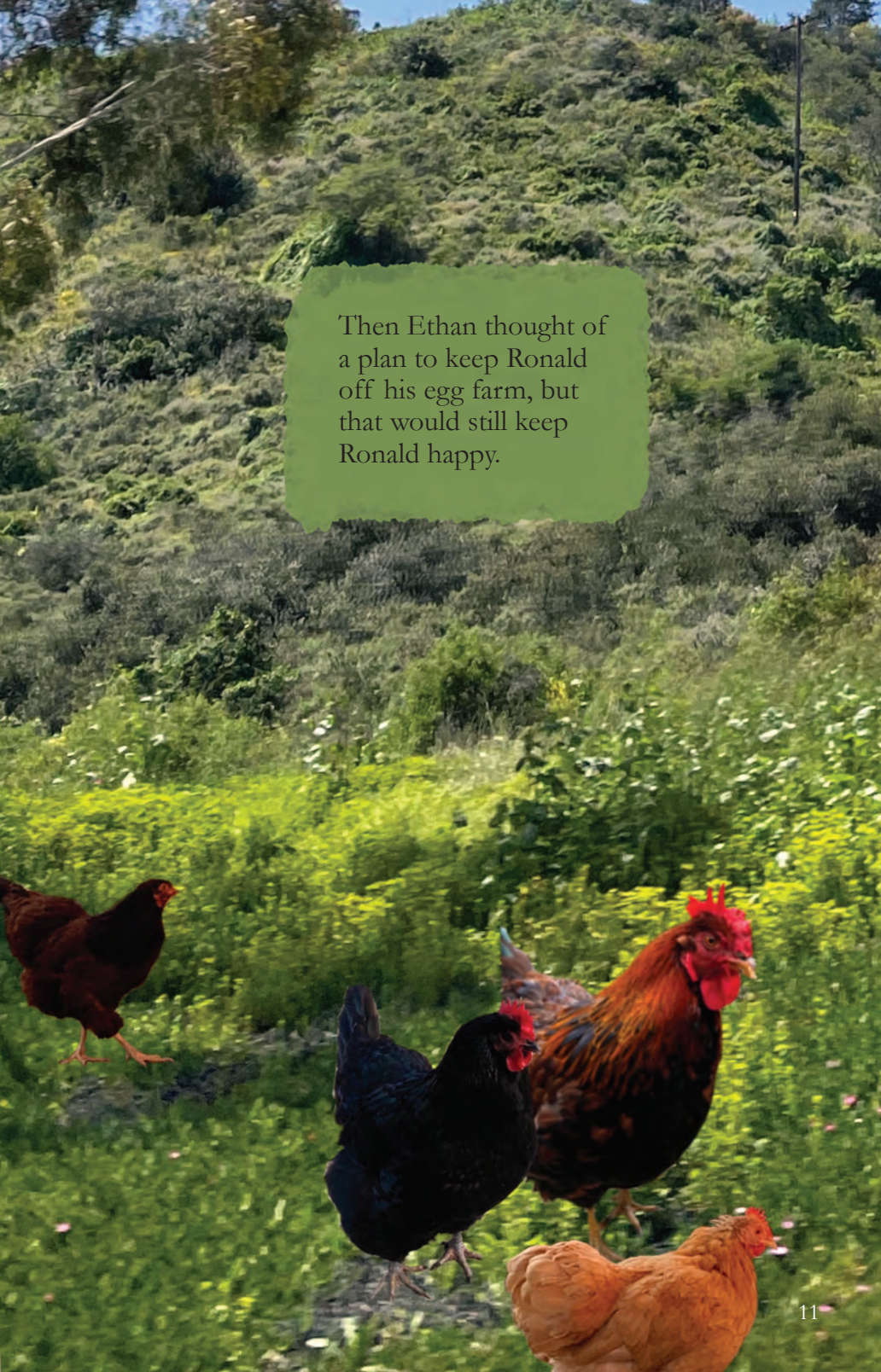




Ethan looked out his window and saw Ronald creeping back on his farm. He knew how vital it is to keep an unwanted rooster away from the hens. It could cause all kinds of problems! Ronald was about to go into the henhouse, and Ethan was frightened. He was so nervous about Ronald harming the hens that his heart was beating like crazy.







Then Ethan thought of  
a plan to keep Ronald  
off his egg farm, but  
that would still keep  
Ronald happy.



Early the next morning, Ethan  
walked over to the Fieldstones' farm  
with five of his hens.

Ronald expressed his happiness with  
a thunderous, "Cock-a-doodle-do!"







One sunny morning, a few peaceful months later, Ethan looked over at the Fieldstones' farm. He had just come back from collecting eggs when he saw Ronald strutting around with 15 fluffy, fuzzy yellow baby chicks following behind him. Ronald finally had his own hens to live with and the family he always wanted. Ethan's plan had worked! Ronald was a proud papa!



## ABOUT the AUTHOR



### **Ethan Burton**

Plaza School

*Jennifer Crane, Teacher*

Ethan learned a lot about eggs by writing this story. From the benefits of eggs to the different colors of eggs, to the types of chickens that produce them, he hopes readers learn as much about chickens, roosters, and eggs by reading his story as he learned by writing it. Speaking of writing, this was Ethan's first time typing, and the Glenn County third grader rates hitting the keyboard as his favorite part of the process.



## ABOUT the ILLUSTRATOR



### **Sofia Matin**

Millikan High School

Scott Coppenger, Art Teacher

Sofia, a junior from Los Angeles County, created illustrations using a combination of photography and drawing. Wanting to get certain aspects of the chickens just right, she spent a lot of time researching the topic and spread out the work by doing a page a day, to ensure good quality work. While Sofia enjoyed the creative process, her favorite aspect of the project was what she learned from “Ethan’s Egg Business.”