

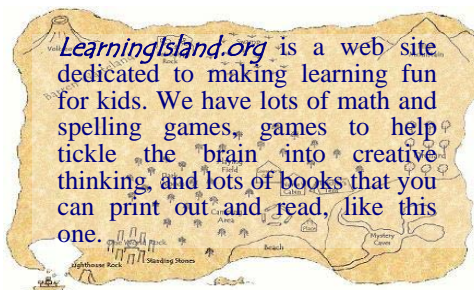
At the water's edge grew great trees. It was just as wild there as in the deepest wood.

In this snug place sat a duck upon her nest. She was waiting for her chicks to hatch.

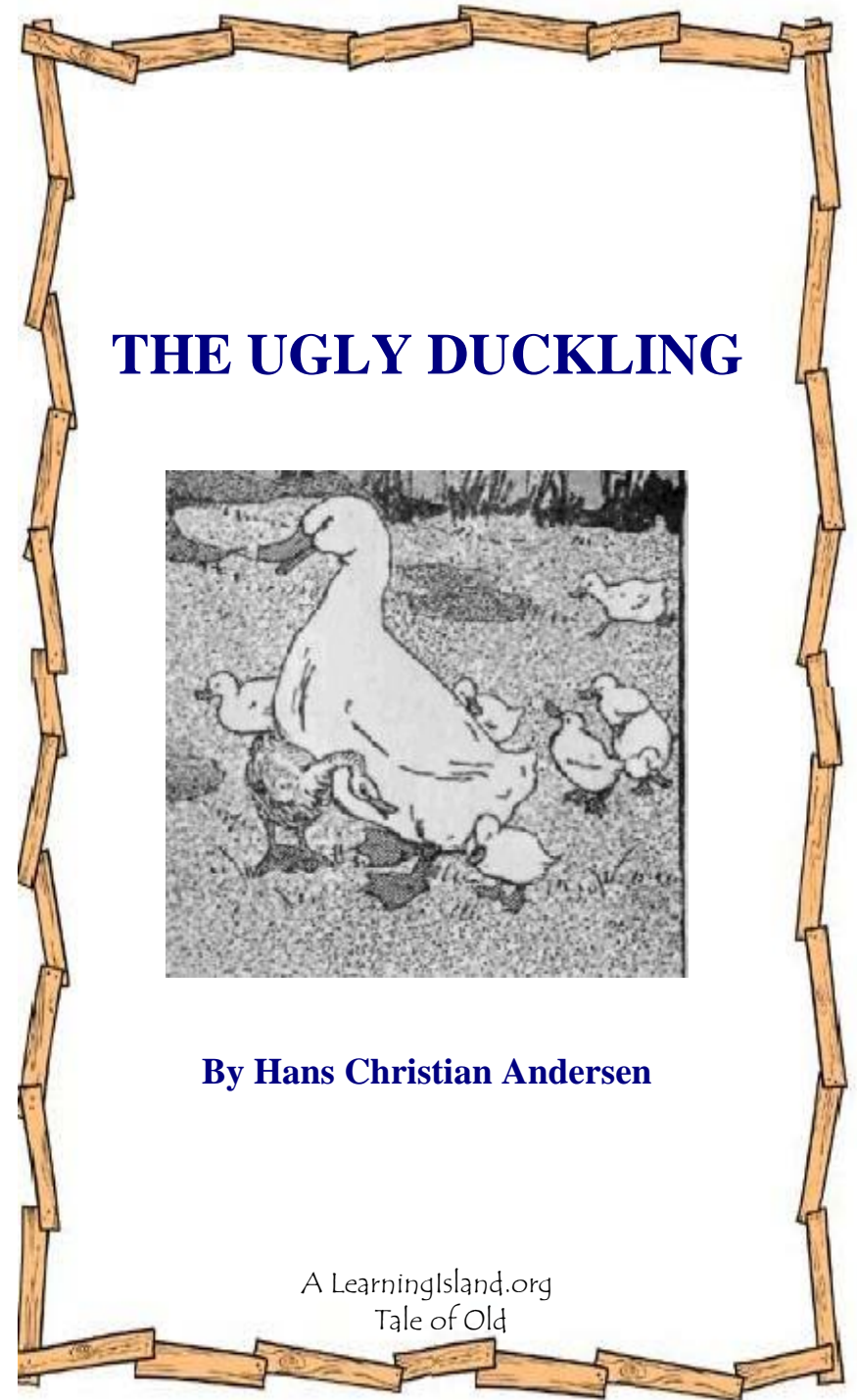
At last one eggshell after another began to crack. From each little egg came "Cheep! Cheep!" Then a little duckling's head popped out.

At last the large egg cracked. "Cheep! Cheep!" said the young one, and tumbled out. How large it was! How ugly it was!

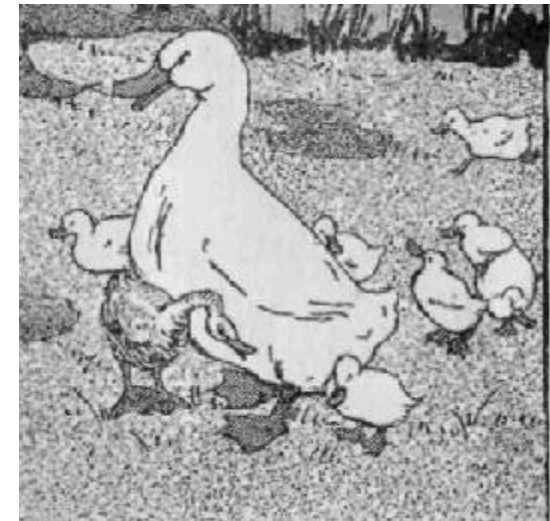
Read the timeless tale of the ugly duckling.



Fiction
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THE UGLY DUCKLING



By Hans Christian Andersen

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Tale of Old