

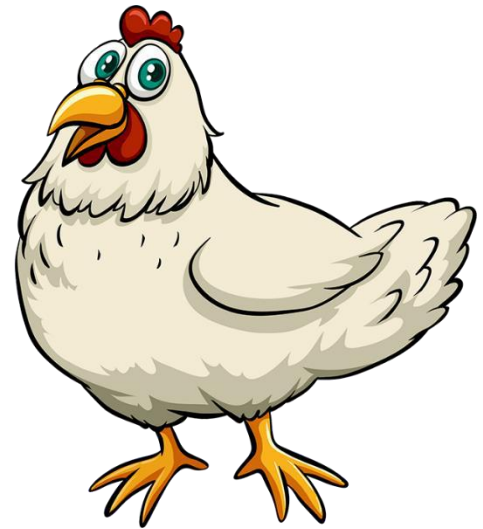
Read the short story. Then answer each question.

## A Big White Hen

There was once a big, white hen that had twelve little chicks. The chicks were very small, and the old hen took good care of them. The chicks always did what the hen told them to do.

One day, the old hen took her chicks down to a small brook.

It was very pretty on the other side of the brook, and the hen wanted to take her chicks over there.



There was a large stone in the brook. The hen thought her chicks were big enough to jump onto that stone. Then they could jump from the stone to the other side.

So, the hen jumped onto the stone and told the chicks to come after her. For the first time, the chicks would not obey her.

The hen flapped her wings and cried, "Come here, all of you! Jump onto this stone with me. Then, we can all jump to the other side."

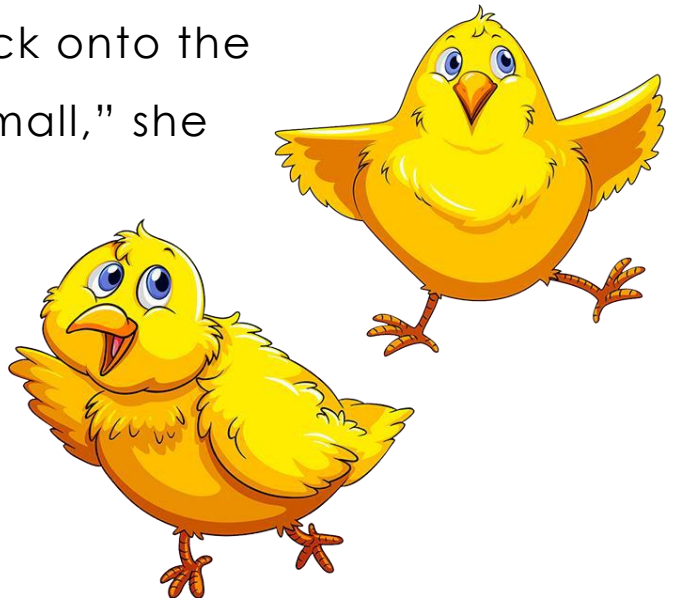
The chicks still would not obey her. "Oh, Mother! We can't, we can't, we can't!" said all the little chicks.

"Yes, you can if you try," said the old hen. "Just flap your wings like this, and you can jump over."

"We are flapping our wings," said Chippy. "But our jumps are too little."

The chicks were worried that the hen would be mad at them.

The mother hen jumped back onto the bank. "You are all still too small," she said. She picked up all the chicks in her big wings and carried them across the brook.



**Questions:**

1. How many chicks does the hen have?

---

---

2. What did the hen find in the brook?

---

---

3. What will help the chicks jump?

---

---

4. Why don't the chicks obey the hen?

---

---

**Answers:**

1. How many chicks does the hen have?  
The hen has twelve chicks.
2. What did the hen find in the brook?  
She found a large stone in the brook.
3. What will help the chicks jump?  
They should flap their wings to jump.
4. Why don't the chicks obey the hen?  
The chicks are too small to jump onto the stone.