

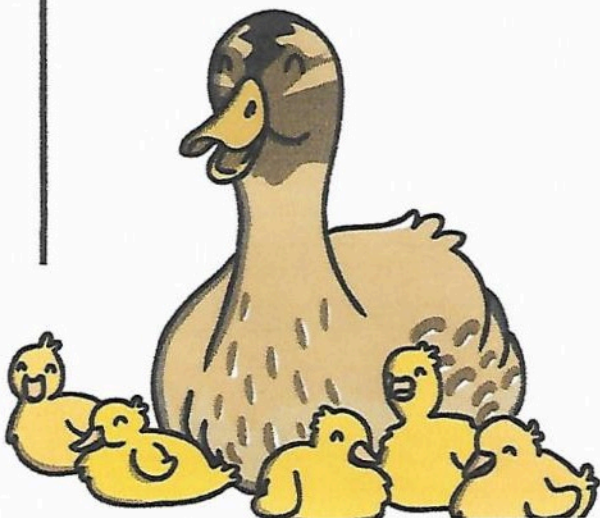
## The River, Five Ducks and a Very Naughty Dog

A True Story by Katrina

Age 7

One sunny day in lockdown, I was doing my home learning work at the kitchen table when there was a knock at the door. It was Nana and Grandad! They had been to the market and left us some lovely, juicy blueberries on the doorstep. We sat outside on the wall (2 metres apart of course) while we chatted and looked at the beautiful river that runs past our house, it was shimmering in the sunlight. Mr and Mrs Duck and their three ducklings were bobbing along happily. We fed them some bird seed that we keep by our front door. Everything was calm.....until all of a sudden there was such a commotion!!!!

With a great big SPLASH a very naughty dog at the other side of the river had jumped in and was trying to catch Mrs Duck! The dog was snapping like a crocodile close behind Mrs Duck. She was trying to escape but didn't want to leave her ducklings, however she had to go so that she could save herself and also lead the dog away from her babies. Nana was shouting at the people across the river "PUT YOUR DOG ON A LEAD!!!!" but they couldn't control the naughty dog. Then, you'll never guess what Mr Duck did.....he flew off! Not to help Mummy Duck, oh no, he flew off in the OPPOSITE DIRECTION!!!! So we were left babysitting the poor ducklings who now had no parents.



Eventually, thank goodness Mrs Duck flew back to her babies. The naughty dog had now gone home after being led away by the fast thinking Mother Duck. Mr Duck was still nowhere to be seen after he abandoned his family when they needed him.

Mrs Duck and her babies swam away down the river. Nana and Grandad went home too. Later that day, we looked outside and saw Daddy Duck looking very sorry for himself, quack quack quacking away. He had come back but his family was gone!

It took him a while but finally he headed off in the same direction his family had gone a few hours earlier.

We don't know if he ever caught them up but we hope he did and also hope that if they were reunited, Mrs Duck gave him a very big telling off!

That is the end of my true story of a very dramatic afternoon by the River Holme.

