

## A DAY IN THE LIFE STORIES: HENS

**Directions:** Read Sarah's story and Hen #4654's story. Complete the Venn Diagram. Then, answer the *A Day in the Life: Hens* writing response questions.



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### SARAH

Meet Sara. She lives at an animal sanctuary, which is a place where animals who are in need of help are able to live out their lives in peace.

Sara was raised on a factory farm, a place where many chickens are kept indoors with very little space. She was found in a cage after a tornado destroyed the area. She was very nervous for a long time after she was rescued.

She sleeps in a barn, wakes up when she wants to, and is able to wander around the dirt and grassy areas whenever she likes. Sara is a bit shy, but she found companionship with a couple of other hens at the sanctuary. She loves spending time with her friends, investigating her surroundings, scratching in the dirt, pecking for and finding fruit, and taking naps in the sun.

## A DAY IN THE LIFE STORIES: HENS



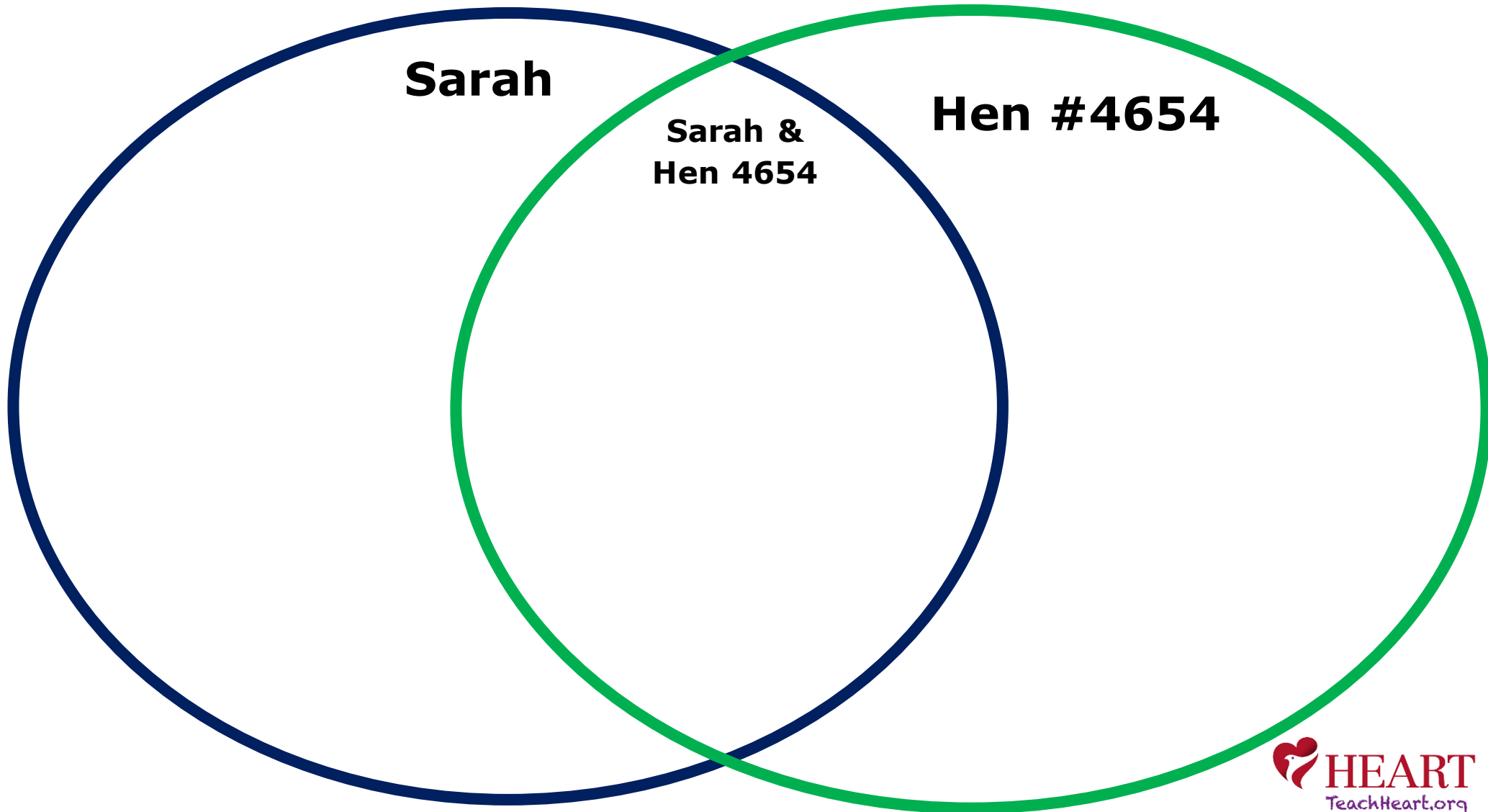
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### HEN #4654

Meet #4654. #4654 has never been given a name. She has never known her family and is used to laying eggs for people to eat. She lives in a building with thousands of other chickens. When she was younger she was debeaked, which means people used a sharp, hot blade to cut off part of her beak to keep her from pecking her cage mates. She shares a cage, called a battery cage, with 8 other chickens. She has a space that is smaller than the size of a piece of writing paper to live, so she frequently gets into fights with the other chickens. She will spend her entire life in this cage unable to stretch her wings. Her cage is made of wire and often rubs her feathers off and hurts her feet. She has to produce more than 260 eggs per year. They are all taken for food for people and none are allowed to hatch. When she doesn't produce eggs, the people starve her for a week and a half (a process called "forced molting") to shock her body into producing more eggs. She will never be able to go outside, give herself a dust bath, raise chicks, or feel sunshine.

**Directions:** Complete this Venn Diagram by listing the details that are specific to Sarah in the blue circle, listing the details specific to Hen #4654 in the green circle, and details Sarah and Hen #4654 have in common in the area where the blue and green circles overlap.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



**A Day in the Life: Hens**  
**Writing Response**

1. In a short paragraph, based on your Venn Diagram, describe the similarities and differences between Sarah’s life and Hen #4654’s life.

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2. How do you feel about the way Sarah is treated at the sanctuary compared to how Hen #4654 is treated on the factory farm?

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3. What did you learn about the lives of hens from reading Sarah’s story and reading Hen #4654’ story?

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