Instructions
You are going to read this story titled *A Strange Tomato* out loud. This story is about a family who finds a funny object in their refrigerator (place the reading passage in front of the child, face down). Try to read each word. You can use your finger to keep your place. If you come to a word you don’t know, I’ll tell it to you. You will read for one minute. Be sure to do your best reading. Do you have any questions? (Turn the passage right side up). Put your finger on the first word. Begin.

*A Strange Tomato*

I wondered if Chester hadn’t dreamed the whole thing. He did admit he’s fallen asleep and, as I’ve said, he has quite an imagination. But I was game. After all, there hadn’t been any excitement in this place for days. Chester and I took our positions under the kitchen table. We didn’t have long to wait.

“Holy cow!” Mr. Monroe yelped as he opened the refrigerator door. He took this funny-looking white thing out of the fridge and held it at arm’s length.

“Peter, come down here!”

“What is that?” I whispered.

“Beats me,” Chester answered. “It looks like a white tomato.”

“Very funny,” I said, as Pete came into the kitchen.

“Peter, have you been playing with your chemistry set in here?”

“No, Dad. Why?”

“I thought this might be one of your experiments. Do you know what it is?”

“Gee, Dad, it looks like a white tomato.”

Just then, Mrs. Monroe and Toby came in the door.

“What’s all the fuss about?” Mrs. Monroe asked.

“We were just trying to figure out what this is.”

Toby pulled it down so he could get a better look.

“Well,” he said, “it looks to me like a white tomato.”

Mr. Monroe took a good long look.