Built in 1963, Marietta's famous "Big Chicken" was originally opened as Johnny Reb's Chick, Chuck, & Shake. The restaurant is located on U.S. Highway 41, and in 1963, Highway 41 was the only major north/south highway in Georgia. Stanley Davis opened Johnny Reb’s at the intersection of Roswell Road and Highway 41, and to promote the new restaurant, he built what is now known as the “Big Chicken.”

Three years later, the restaurant was purchased by Kentucky Fried Chicken. KFC wanted to tear the chicken down and replace it with a traditional restaurant sign, but Davis talked the famous Colonel Sanders out of tearing it down. KFC has said that the 56 foot high metal rooster was the best advertisement they had in the region.

The “Big Chicken” grew in its popularity and status as a landmark until a storm in 1993 seriously damaged the bird and the restaurant beneath it. KFC officials considered not replacing the “Big Chicken,” but a public poll convinced them to re-build it.

The bird was rebuilt exactly as it stood orignally, with the addition of moving eyes and a moving beak. It is now Marietta's most well known landmark.

**Let’s Review**

1. When was the “Big Chicken” built?? _______________________________

2. How tall is the “Big Chicken”? _______________________________

3. What was added when the “Big Chicken” was re-built? _______________________________