

MYSTERY EGGS

Focus Lesson: Mystery Eggs

Materials:

Books in reading list (multiple copies if possible)
 Mystery Egg cards (attached)

Time: 90 minutes

Common Core Standards:
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.5.9

Integrate information from several texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.5.7

Draw on information from multiple print or digital sources, demonstrating the ability to locate an answer to a question quickly or to solve a problem efficiently.

Thinking Skill: Gathering information

Objective:

Students will learn about the unique properties of different animal species' eggs. Students will search through nonfiction texts to identify an animal egg and its characteristics.

Connection:

Brainstorm:

What animals do we know that lay eggs? Write a list with all student ideas, explaining and redirecting if it's an animal that doesn't lay an egg.

Discuss: Why do only some animals lay eggs? Why don't humans lay eggs? All species are different and have learned to survive in different ways.

Explicit Instruction:

Read *An Egg is Quiet* aloud.

As students see new animal egg layers, add them to the initial brainstorm list.

Guided Practice:

Divide students into pairs and give each a Mystery Egg. Students should search for their animal using the clues on their mystery egg, trying to identify the species it belongs to.

Independent Practice:

Each student should create their own mystery egg with 2-3 clues about their chosen species. *Animal Eggs* and *Eggs* can both be used by students to find eggs. Students should draw and label the adult animal on the back of their egg.

Reflection – Group Share:

Allow each student to present his or her mystery egg. Allow students an opportunity to guess which animal each egg belongs to (they may have come across these species creating their own eggs or searching during the partner exercise!) and reveal the answer by turning the egg over to show the adult drawing.

Reading list:

An Egg is Quiet by Dianna Aston and Sylvia Long
Eggs by Marilyn Singer
Animal Eggs: An Amazing Clutch of Mysteries and Marvels by Dawn Cusick and Joanne O'Sullivan

MYSTERY EGG ANSWER KEY

- A. ALLIGATOR p15, 23 [Animal Eggs](#)
- B. OCTOPUS, p 12 [Animal Eggs](#)
- C. BLACK WIDOW SPIDER p22 [Animal Eggs](#)
- D. EMPEROR PENGUIN p25 [Animal Eggs](#)
- E. FRUIT FLY p30 [Animal Eggs](#)
- F. EARWIG p 15 [Eggs](#)
- G. PYTHON, p 16 [Eggs](#)
- H. RED LEGGED PARTRIDGE p 20 [Eggs](#)
- I. CUCKOO p21 [Eggs](#)
- J. PRAYING MANTIS, p 14 [Eggs](#)

Teacher Note:

A.

1. My eggs ARE OBLONG and white (BUT CAN HAVE GREEN SPECKS FROM STUCK ON PLANTS)
2. MANY REPTILES ARE EGG DUMPERS, BUT I STAY WITH MY EGGS!

WHO AM I?

B.

1. My eggs look like tear drop shaped balloons.
2. You can sometimes see my eyes and tentacles through the egg!

WHO AM I?

C.

1. I LAY MY EGGS IN A PILE AND THEN ROLL THEM UP
INTO A SILK SAC.
2. I CARRY THE EGG SAC EVERYWHERE AND FIGHT ANYONE
WHO TRIES TO STEAL IT.

WHO AM I?

D.

1. I LAY JUST ONE EGG

2. MY MOM HUNTS FOR FOOD WHILE MY DAD KEEPS
ME WARM!

WHO AM I?

E.

1. I CAN USE MY OVIPOSITORS TO PLACE EGGS
INTO AN ORANGE.

2. WHEN I HATCH, I WILL EAT THE FRESH FRUIT!

WHO AM I?

F.

1. I DIG A SHORT BURROW AND LAY 20-50 EGGS.

2. I TAKE CARE OF MY EGGS BY CLEANING AND
TURNING THEM SO THEY DON'T BECOME
DISEASED!

WHO AM I?

G.

1. I STAY WITH MY EGGS, BASKING IN THE SUN
TO INCUBATE THEM.

2. I ALSO SHIVER, WHICH BRINGS MORE HEAT TO
THE EGGS.

WHO AM I?

H.

1. I BUILD 2 NESTS AND LAY 1 EGG IN EACH.

2. I INCUBATE ONE CLUTCH, MY MALE MATE
INCUBATES THE OTHER.

WHO AM I?

I.

1. I SOMETIMES LEAVE MY EGG IN THE NESTS OF
OTHER BIRDS .

2. I LET THE OWNERS OF THE OTHER NEST FOSTER
PARENT AND RAISE MY EGG .

WHO AM I ?

J.

1. I MAKE A SOFT, STICKY MATERIAL AND WHIP
IT INTO AN EGG CASE.

2. THE EGG CASE BECOMES STIFF AND NEARLY
WATERPROOF, THEN I HANG IT FROM A TWIG!

WHO AM I?