

At Home with Nature

Nature doesn't just happen in a park; it can happen right at home!



A resource for **PRESCHOOL** and **EARLY ELEMENTARY AGE CHILDREN** so they may feel right **AT HOME WITH NATURE.**

EGGcellent Adventures!

Videos, activities, stories and songs celebrating the many animals that hatch from eggs.

Let's Get Started

Eggs come in all shapes, sizes and colors. Enjoy this video and see all sorts of eggs and learn who may hatch from them.

<https://youtu.be/oaCQ8XDqb08>

Literacy Connection

Enjoy the story Chickens Aren't the Only Ones written by Ruth Beller and discover all sorts of animals that begin life in eggs.

<https://youtu.be/2WiqMFD2LA4>

Music and Movement

Sing along and move like birds as they hatch and grow.

<https://youtu.be/49QNYJBCEpg>



Math Connection

Count as eggs hatch to reveal lots of different baby animals.

<https://youtu.be/4y6CqbStyza>

Jellybeans look just like eggs. Use them for some EGGcellent math!

Directions are below.

Creative Expression

Create a sweet springtime craft and wonder which comes first: the chicken or the egg.

Directions are below.

Let's Explore Outdoors

Take the learning outdoors with memorable family activities.

Details are below.

Math Connection



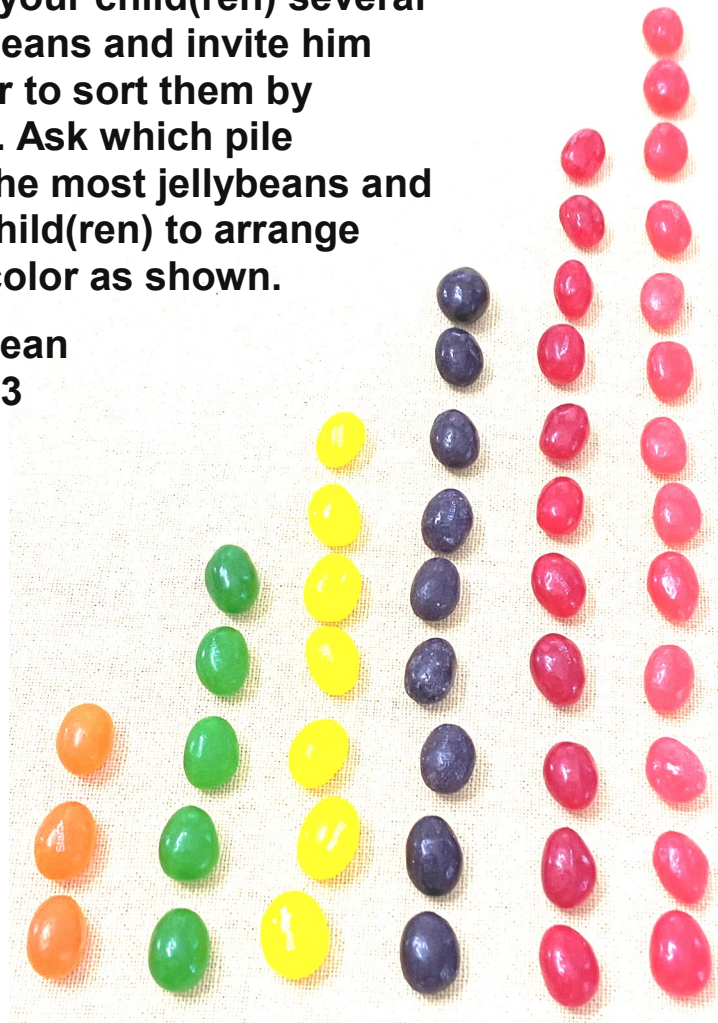
Counting Eggs!

Jellybeans are great counting items for children AND they are shaped just like eggs!

Give your child(ren) several jellybeans and invite him or her to sort them by color. Ask which pile has the most jellybeans and

which pile has the least. Invite your child(ren) to arrange and compare the jellybeans by their color as shown.

Ask your child(ren) which color jellybean is his or her favorite. If your child ate 3 of this color jellybean, how many would remain of that color?



Some bird eggs are pale in color, while others are quite bold. Some are plain while others are speckled.



Colors and markings help camouflage an eggshell from hungry predators.

Music and Movement



I Wish I Were A Teeny-Tiny Egg!

Sung to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It"

Oh, I wish I were a teeny-tiny egg. (make an egg shape using the fingers of both hands)

Oh, I wish I were a teeny-tiny egg.

I would roll and roll around, (make a rolling motion using both hands)

Rolling all around the town.

Oh, I wish I were a teeny-tiny egg.

(make an egg shape using the fingers of both hands)



I'm a Little

Birdie, Ready to Hatch!

Sung to the tune of "I'm a Little Teapot"

I'm a little birdie, (crouch down inside your "egg")

Ready to hatch,

Pecking at my shell, (make a pecking motion)

Scratch, scratch, scratch! (make a scratching motion)

When I crack it open,

Out I'll leap! (jump up)

I fluff my feathers, (put on "wings")

Cheep! Cheep! Cheep!

Creative Expression



From Egg... to Baby Chick!

Materials Needed:

- White, yellow and orange paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Colored tissue paper
- Wiggly eyes
- Feathers



Directions:

- Cut a large egg shape from the white paper. Cut small square pieces from the colored tissue paper. Glue these to the egg.
- Trace your handprints on the yellow paper. Cut them out and glue them to the backside of the egg as shown below.
- Using the orange paper, cut out bird feet and glue these to the backside of the egg as shown below.
- On the frontside of the chick, glue wiggly eyes and a little orange beak as shown above. Add a few feathers to your chick.



Let's Explore Outdoors



Build a Bird Nest!

Bird nests come in all shapes and sizes. Some are tiny cups made of moss and spider silk, other are massive piles of branches that weigh more than a car.



Invite your child(ren) to gather small twigs, grass and pine straw and arrange them in a bowl shape. Try using mud to hold the materials together.

Gather pieces of brightly colored yarn or string and place these in your nest. You may also place lint from your clothes dryer into your nest. Place your nest where birds will see it. After a few days, look around your yard to see if birds have “borrowed” your materials in their nest building!

Birds are wonderful architects. They gather twigs, grass, leaves and other things and then weave the materials to form nests...all without hands! Many birds build nests to keep their eggs and hatchlings warm and safe. Some birds, like robins and chickadees, build their nests in trees, while other birds build nests on cliffs, in marshy wetlands or even right on the ground.

Get in Shape!

Because most bird eggs are shaped as irregular ovals, the eggs roll around within the nest. If they were round, they could easily roll out of the nest. Invite your child(ren) to get down on the ground and using a straw, try blowing a ping pong ball. A ball travels in a pretty straight path. Now, try the same with a plastic egg. Does the egg move in a straight path?

Let's Explore Outdoors



Go on a Family Egg Hunt!

Head outdoors in springtime and look for eggs and other signs of new life. Perhaps you will spot bird nests in trees, see frog or fish eggs floating in ponds or maybe you will uncover slug and snail eggs hidden under rotting logs or beneath

leaves in wooded areas. Look for insect eggs laid on the underside of leaves. Eggs are fragile, so if found, observe the eggs but do not touch or disturb them. Wonder and delight in the new lives growing within.

Hiding in Plain Sight!

Some bird eggs are pale in color while others are bolder in color. Some eggs are plain, while others are speckled. Colors and markings help camouflage an eggshell from hungry predators. Using plastic eggs of different colors, invite your child(ren) to place the eggs in places that match their colors while other family members are not watching. Once finished, other family members may seek the eggs. Reverse roles, giving your child(ren) opportunity to seek eggs that you have placed in places that match their color. Hiding in plain sight is a valuable adaptation for eggs, protecting the animals within.

