Storytime Activity Guide

Egg
by Kevin Henkes

From three small eggs three little birds emerge but the fourth egg is still intact. After waiting and waiting the 3 birds peck and peck until the last egg hatches and they get a big surprise!

Did you know?

Before learning to read, children first need to understand what letters and words are and how we use them. There are lots of ways to help your child develop Print Awareness while reading Egg: show your child how to hold the book, let them turn the pages, trace the words or images as you read left to right, top to bottom, and point at the punctuation marks and talk about what they mean.

Talk about it!

While babies and young children might not be able to answer your questions, they are learning as they hear you talk. When you ask and answer your own questions you are helping your child learn language!

• Sing the “ABC” song with your child. Sing it fast, sing it slow. Clap along and help your child to clap their hands to each letter you sing.
• Talk to your child about things that hatch from eggs. For example, you could say: “Baby birds hatch from eggs. Baby bird - that starts with the letter ‘b’!”
• Sing “If you’re happy and you know it” with your child. Insert some of the emotions from the story. For example, what does ‘surprised’ look like? What about when the crocodile is alone? What would ‘lonely’ or ‘sad’ look like?

Play: (activity with no materials)

Go on a hunt for words you can find around your home. For example, you may find printed words in a book, a magazine, or on packaging. Point to the word. Say that word and spell out the word for your child. If you can, have your child point or touch the item you find. Older toddlers may be able to trace the letters of the words you find with their fingers. Babies will watch you complete the activity, but will listen and learn new words as you play. Be animated and get silly! Your child will enjoy this new game with you!

Find More Online

Scan this QR code to find book recommendations, online activity guides, and other fun resources.

Scan this QR code with your phone’s camera to see our Read Aloud of this book!

All resources can be found at: tandembayarea.org
Create!

Materials needed: • 2 plastic eggs   • Safety scissors
• Uncooked rice   • Marker
• Clear tape

Before playing with your child, prepare your egg shaker.

1. Choose one of the plastic eggs to become your shaker. Place the uncooked rice inside the egg.

2. Using a marker, write the word “egg” on your shaker in large letters. Allow the ink to dry thoroughly to avoid smudging.

3. Secure the egg closed with clear tape. Be sure to tape all the way around the egg at least two times to ensure that it is not easy for small children to peel off the tape or open the egg.

4. Leave the remaining egg empty. Babies will enjoy watching you open and close this empty egg. Older babies and toddlers will enjoy opening and closing the egg themselves! Note: Supervision is required at all times when small children are playing with their egg shaker to avoid choking hazards.

Once your egg shaker is prepared, play a game!

1. As you share the book Egg, invite your child to play with the plastic eggs. When you see the word “egg” in the story, point to the word “egg” written on your shaker. Show your child that you can shake the egg to make a noise. Be sure to repeat the word “egg” as you shake it. Depending on your child’s age and ability, ask them to shake their egg each time you see the word “egg” in the story.

2. Use your egg shaker to illustrate the word “peck.” Show your child that they can tap the egg on a hard surface. As they do, say “peck!” Point out the word “peck” in the storybook.

3. Use your empty egg to illustrate the word “crack.” Show your child you can “crack” open this egg! Depending on your child’s age and ability, invite them to crack open the empty egg each time you read the word “crack” in the storybook.