

An Egg Is Quiet

First Reading: Illustrations

From the minute you open the cover, you will see beautiful informational ink and watercolor illustrations. On the usually blank end pages that precede the dedication/copyright page, you will see many different kinds of eggs. After the story, the end pages are full of the birds and insects that hatched from these eggs. As you look at the eggs, see if any look familiar to your child and you. If you do recognize an egg, share your memory about the egg.

Starting on the copyright/dedication page, you will notice that the name of the insect, bird, fish, reptile, or animal connected to the egg is always given. Read those names as you study the illustrations to wake up any prior knowledge you or your listener might have.

*If the pages in your text are not numbered, the first page of text is page 1.

Vocabulary will be discussed during the Second Reading.

Page 1:

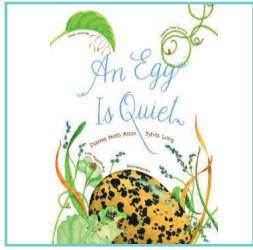
- What kind of organism do you think will hatch from this Black-necked Stilt egg? (an animal, a bird, an insect) The answer will be revealed in other illustrations.

Pages 2 - 3:

- Talk about the eggs shown on these pages. Do you and your readers have any prior knowledge about hummingbird, Emperor Penguins, or sea turtles? (My grandchildren would have prior knowledge about turtle eggs. They love to watch A Turtle's Tale!)

Pages 4 - 5:

- Look at the variety of eggs! Which eggs do you find the most interesting or lovely?
- Read the names. Are there any that you have prior knowledge to share?
- The eggs in this illustration are the actual sizes of the real eggs. Discuss the meaning of actual size.



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Pages 6 - 19:

As you look at these full-page spreads, read the headings. Talk about how the heading and the special eggs on each page go together. Do any of these illustrations open any prior knowledge for your listener or you? Don't read the text under each egg yet.

- Pages 6 - 7: The eggs are of different shapes. Talk about oval, pointy, and tubular. Discuss what an oval is. (Sometimes oval is defined as an egg-like shape.) Can you think of other ovals in the world? Tubular is a fun word to discuss. Can you think of objects that are tubular?
- Pages 8 - 9: "An egg is clever." What does clever mean? (smart, good at solving problems) Why might the egg be clever? Can you find the clever egg?
- Pages 10 - 11: Talk about the ruler across the top of the pages.
- Pages 12 - 13: Why are these eggs called artistic? (beautiful, decorative, and pleasing to look at) You can go back to one of the pages filled with eggs to talk about other eggs you would describe as artistic.
- Pages 14 - 15: What does textured mean? (a different feeling of an object when touched) Talk about items other than eggs that have special or different textures.
- Pages 16 - 17: What does fossilized mean? (becomes stone-like)
- Pages 18 - 19: Giving takes on a special meaning here. (sharing, generous, caring) Why might the egg be giving?

Pages 20 - 23:

Pages 20 - 21: The Black-necked Stilt egg appears again. What do you see on these pages? What hatches from a Black-necked Stilt egg?

Do your reader and you have any questions that you hope the text will answer?

A few questions my grandchildren had were?

- What's the biggest kind of egg?
- What hatches from eggs? What doesn't hatch from eggs?

Keep your questions handy to use with the Second Reading.