



An Egg Is Quiet

by Dianna Hutts Aston

One of Practickle's goals is to feature quality nonfiction (informational) books. *An Egg Is Quiet* is a highly acclaimed award winner, receiving praise for both its informational content and its beauty. If you enjoyed last month's informational book selection, *Swirl by Swirl*, you will enjoy this book. Both books use magnificent illustrations to highlight the diversity in nature's plants and animals. When *An Egg Is Quiet* was published in 2006, it won awards for meeting the national Common Core Literacy Standards and primary grade science standards.

Each page in this book is full of information. As you read Ms. Aston's text you will discover that you can read parts of it for the young listeners or all of it for the older listeners. Ms. Long is quite skillful at including labels in her lush illustrations. Parents and children will learn for this amazing resource. You will be glad to have this book on your shelf to read or page through. Before you begin your first reading, enjoy a lovely preview on <http://pbskids.org/lions/stories/nature.html>. Between the Lions is a program dedicated to introducing children to wonderful literature.

Educators can go to <http://sciencenetlinks.com/lessons/an-egg-is-quiet> to read how highly acclaimed this book is for academic reasons. There are also some wonderful follow-up activities suggested on this site.

The Reading Comprehension Best Practice that will be highlighted with this book is **Asking Questions Before Reading**. As you study the illustrations during the First Reading, keep track of the questions that your young reader asks. I'm sure the information in the text will answer most of them!

After the repeated readings, your young scientist can duplicate the styles of Ms. Aston and Ms. Long and conduct an original study. Maybe the organism studied will be a leaf or a flower. Your young scientist can write a book with illustrations accompanied by information.