Activity 1: Exploring Eggs

Session 1: What is an Egg?

What You Need
For the group
- 1 container, such as a bowl or basket, large enough to hold a chicken egg for each child
- Pictures of chickens hatching from eggs (see Resources on page 56 for books with pictures you can use)
  optional
  - 1 live chicken

For each child
- 1 real chicken egg (hard-boiled)

For the drama
- 1 girl doll
- Enough dry grass or straw to make a nest 8" to 12" in diameter
- 1 Chicken and Her Eggs poster (see page 12)
  optional
  - 1 toy chicken

Session 2: A Variety of Eggs and Animals

What You Need
For the group
- 1 container, such as a basket
- A variety of real eggs, such as frog, duck, quail, silk moth, and snail—aquatic or garden. (See Resources on page 57 for supply houses that sell prepared real eggs, such as ostrich eggs.)
- 1 Snake Laying Eggs poster (see page 13)
- 1 Robin and Her Nest poster (see page 14)
- 1 Ostrich and Her Eggs poster (see page 15)
- Pictures of animals hatching from eggs or laying eggs (see Resources on page 56 for books with pictures you can use)

For each child and yourself
- 1 hollow plastic egg that opens and closes—including a few extra eggs in case some break (Many variety, grocery, and drug stores sell plastic eggs before Easter. You will use these plastic eggs again in Activity 2, Session 2.)
- 1 small toy animal that hatches from an egg—and can fit inside a plastic egg—such as a turtle, lizard, spider, snake, bird, or fish (Include a few extra toy animals in case some get lost. You will use these toy animals again in Activity 2, Session 2.)
Activity 2: Hatching Eggs

Session 1: Sorting Animals

What You Need
For the class
- 1 copy of *Chickens Aren’t the Only Ones* by Ruth Heller
  (See Literature Connections on page 59.)
- 1 basket or container to hold the filled plastic eggs (used in Activity 1)
- 6” white paper plates

For each child and yourself
- 1 hollow plastic egg that opens and closes
  (include a few extra eggs in case some break)
- 1 small toy animal that hatches from an egg, such as a turtle, lizard, spider, snake, bird, or fish
optional
- Ostrich Egg drawing (see page 28)
- Drawing of various eggs (see page 29)
- Crayons or markers
- Scissors

Session 2: Organizing Sorts Into Graphs
For Kindergarten and First Grade ONLY!

What You Need
For the class
- 1 two-sided graphing grid  (To make this you need butcher/chart paper, a permanent black marker, and a yardstick.)
- Labels (3” x 3” Post-Its or paper squares)
- 2 small trays or two 9” white paper plates
- 1 basket or container to hold the filled plastic eggs (used in Session 1)

For each child and yourself
- 1 hollow plastic egg that opens and closes—in case some break (You can use the same ones from Activity 1, Session 2.)
- 1 small toy animal that hatches from an egg, such as a turtle, lizard, spider, snake, bird, or fish (You can use the same ones from Activity 1, Session 2.)
Activity 3: Eggs on Land, Eggs in Water

Session 1: Eggs on Land

What You Need
For the whole group
☐ 1 live box turtle
☐ 1 large toy turtle
☐ 2 small toy turtles
☐ 2 ping-pong balls or Styrofoam balls (as turtle eggs)
☐ 1 toy dog
☐ 1 tub, such as a dishpan, filled with sand
☐ 1 paper grocery bag
☐ 1 Turtle Laying Eggs poster (see page 38)
☐ Colored pictures of turtles and turtle eggs (See Resources on pages 56 for books with pictures you can use.)
☐ 2 strawberries
☐ 1 tomato, cut into quarters

Optional
You can use a piece of clay to make the two small turtles and two turtle eggs called for above—a recipe for homemade clay is on page 36.

Session 2: Eggs in Water

What You Need
For the group
☐ 1 live fish in a fish bowl
☐ 1 container of fish food
☐ 1 Fish Laying Eggs poster (see page 39)
☐ 1 bunch of pond plants
☐ 1 container, such as a basket
☐ 1 tub, such as a dishpan, filled with sand and a few dry leaves
☐ 1 tub, such as a dishpan, filled with water
☐ 10 or more hollow plastic eggs that open and close
☐ 5 or more different toy animals—small enough to fit inside the eggs—that hatch from eggs on land (such as turtles, at least one snake, snails, or crickets)
☐ 5 or more different toy animals—small enough to fit inside the eggs—that hatch from eggs in water (such as crabs, lobsters, and at least four fish)

Optional
☐ 1 watercolor set
☐ 1 watercolor brush
☐ 1 small container of real, natural-colored salmon eggs
(available where fishing supplies are sold)
Session 3: Making Clay Eggs and Animals

What You Need
For the group
   optional
   - 1 plastic bag
   - 1 twist-tie

For each child and yourself
   - 1 ball of potter’s or homemade clay, about the size of a chicken egg

Homemade Clay Recipe
This recipe provides enough clay to make eight eggs.
   - 2 cups baking soda
   - 1 tsp. cooking oil
   - 1 cup corn starch
   - 1¼ cup cold water

Activity 4: Rolling Eggs and Other Objects

Session 1: Exploring Movement

What You Need
For each child
   - 1 plastic egg

For the group
   - Large blocks, about 3” square
   - Small blocks, about 1” square
   - A collection of objects that always roll, such as balls—large, small, heavy, light
   - A collection of objects that usually don’t roll, such as a small cardboard box
   - A collection of objects that sometimes roll, such as an empty spool, a button, a cork, a plastic cup, a paper tube, and a pinecone
   - A collection of objects that roll in a circle, such as a Styrofoam cone, plastic funnel, plastic cup, or a plastic toy pear
   - Containers to hold the objects
   - Several cardboard boxes, about 12” square
   - Several cookie sheets, cafeteria trays, or other flat surfaces that can be inclined

Session 2: Eggs on a Cliff

What You Need
For the group
   - 1 Murre and Her Egg poster (see page 47)
   - 1 pear-shaped murre “egg” about 3” long, such as a Styrofoam cone, or you can make a clay egg
   - 1 black marker, or a peel-and-stick dot
   - 1 paper bag large enough to hold the objects the children use for eggs
   optional
      - 1 white sheet
      - 1 blue sheet, bath towel, or rug
      - Several plastic fish

For each child
   - 1 object that is larger at one end than the other (one that will roll in a circle), such as a Styrofoam cone, plastic or paper cup, yogurt container, plastic pear, or a funnel (Have other objects available that are not shaped like a murre egg, such as a paper roll or wooden block.)