

## Animal Eggs

### Summary

Some animals lay eggs. Different animals lay eggs in different environments. Many reptiles dig nests or hide their eggs. Most amphibians lay their eggs in water or moist ground. Insects lay their eggs on or near the food their young will need. Animals have ways to keep their eggs safe. They may guard the eggs or make nests to protect them. Some animals stay with their eggs until they hatch. Birds incubate, or warm, their eggs by sitting on them. Other animals leave the eggs to hatch on their own. All eggs contain the food a young animal needs to grow.

### Before Reading

#### Take a Picture Walk

Build background for the book by taking a picture walk with children. Discuss the pictures and preview the key vocabulary and concepts. Invite children to name animals they know that lay eggs.

### Vocabulary

germinate, life cycle, nymph, seed coat, seedling, amphibian, hatch, incubate, larvae, metamorphosis, oviparous

### Comprehension Skill: Infer

*Say:* We can use what we already know about a thing to infer or make a statement about it. You know that birds come in many different sizes, shapes, and colors. You also know birds lay eggs. What can you infer about the kinds of eggs birds lay? Explain your answer.

### During Reading

#### Think Critically

Have children answer the *What Did You Learn?* questions located on the inside back cover of their book.

- 1. What two sources of food does a bird egg provide for a young bird?** Two sources of food are the egg white and the egg yolk.
- 2. Where do most frogs lay their eggs?** Most frogs lay their eggs in water. Their eggs stay held in a glob of jelly.

### After Reading

#### Writing in Science

Some young animals have an egg tooth. Write to explain what an egg tooth does. Use examples from this book to support your answer.

#### Organize Information

*Graphic Organizer: Infer* Have children complete the Infer chart on the BLM for this Leveled Reader to infer what crabs are most likely to do with their eggs until they hatch.

#### Related Resources

Vocabulary Cards	Equipment Kit
Every Student Learns	Activity Flipchart
Quick Study	LabZone
Big Book of Science Songs and CD	
Graphic Organizer Transparencies	
Quick Activity Transparency	
<a href="http://www.pearsonsuccessnet.com">www.pearsonsuccessnet.com</a>	

**Write your answers.**

1. Why do birds sit on their eggs?  
**Birds sit on their eggs to keep them warm so that the baby inside can develop.**
2. Some young insects look very different from their parents.  
What are these young insects called?  
**Young insects that look very different from their parents are called nymphs or larvae.**
3. Where do most amphibians lay their eggs?  
**Most amphibians lay their eggs in water or on moist ground.**
4. What are crabs most likely to do with their eggs until they hatch? Use the graphic organizer to help you.

**Possible answer:**

**Infer**

**I know**

**I can infer**

**Crabs have shells.  
Animals with shells and many legs usually carry their eggs on their bellies.**



**Crabs are likely to carry their eggs on their bellies until they hatch.**