



Chickens Aren't the Only Ones: A Book About Animals that Lay Eggs

Ruth Heller

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Ruth Heller's prose and pictures are the perfect means for discovering the variety of oviparous animals and their unique ways of laying eggs.

Chickens Aren't the Only Ones: A Book About Animals that Lay Eggs Details

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Author : Ruth Heller

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From Reader Review Chickens Aren't the Only Ones: A Book About Animals that Lay Eggs for online ebook

Alicia says

My four year old class enjoyed this book. We did a science experiment with it-floating a hard boiled egg in salt water.

ConnieLettow says

This turned out to be a fun early reader for us.

I do have to mention that my five year old was a bit incensed about the part where it says that mammals don't lay eggs. I had to explain that mammals don't LAY eggs, but yes, mammals do have eggs inside of them. I loved learning things like "oviparous" and looking at the super cool shark egg. The book is in verse and it made it much easier for my little to read aloud and guess the words. Great book, but a great Author/Illustrator.

Krissy says

Stumbled across this one and love it. Who knew there could be such exquisitely simple, poetic writing (and gorgeous illustrations!) about egg-laying animals?

Leigh Triplett says

This book has bright colorful pictures of many animals and insects that lay eggs. It is educational and would be a good read aloud. It also covers the life cycle and what the inside of a chicken egg looks like.

Shaylee Roberts says

great way to teach all the animals that don't lay eggs!

Darian says

Such a cute story that both my son and I loved. The pages are short and simple with large colorful pictures. I love that there are great animals facts other than just listing off animals that can lay eggs.

Catherine says

Ruth Heller does it again, this time teaching about, obviously, animals that lay eggs. I think this would make a great read aloud for second or third graders. It begins simply, with chicken eggs, which is a part of the subject matter that is appropriate for young children, making the connection between our food "eggs" and birds. As the book progresses, the animals become less familiar.

Cassandra Gelvin says

The wonderful world of eggs.

This book just talks about different kinds of birds that lay eggs, and then mentions reptiles that lay eggs, dinosaurs, amphibians, a bunch of different kinds of fish, and then spiders, insects, and then the two mammals that lay eggs.

The biggest issue that I have with this book is the first few sentences that spread across the first three pages. "CHICKENS laid the eggs you buy, the eggs you boil or fry or dye! or leave alone so you can see what grew inside naturally." No, that's not how you hatch a chicken. You can't hatch a chick from an egg that you buy at the grocery store. There may be stores which sell fertilized eggs, but the eggs at the grocery store are not fertilized, and they are chilled so they certainly won't hatch. If they were fertilized, and you left them with the chicken, they would hatch naturally, and grow a chicken. I don't know why that part is there.

I actually learned some stuff from this book. I wouldn't have assumed necessarily that every single bird lays eggs, but they do. "Dinosaurs who are extinct, but they were reptiles too." That's a case of TV Tropes' "Science Marches On"-- we now know dinosaurs were more like birds. And there actually is one kind of amphibian that has claws (the African clawed frog, according to Wikipedia), but that's not a big deal (although it would have been a neat thing to mention). No other amphibian has claws, and that's a good rule of thumb to tell amphibians from reptiles. I've never heard spiny echidnas called "spiny anteaters," but apparently that's another name for them (one of the famous two egg-laying mammals, the other being the platypus). She also says the ostrich lays the largest egg, and then mentions dinosaurs. I'm going to guess that at least some dinosaurs had eggs larger than ostrich eggs.

But if she's going to bite the bullet and talk about reproduction and having babies, she might as well mention that what we think of as "eggs" are actually shells that contain an egg. Not all eggs have shells, and other animals that don't lay eggs still make eggs internally. She mentions on the last page that "animals who don't lay eggs have babies born alive and well." So, basically, animals that don't lay eggs don't lay eggs. Of course, not all animals bear their young; some starfish, for example, can shed an arm which will grow into a new starfish. And not to be a downer, but not all animal babies are born "alive and well."

Message: Different kinds of animals lay eggs.

For more children's book reviews, see my website at <http://www.drttmk.com>.

Alexis Caudill says

1. Book summary, in your own words (3 pts)

Chickens Aren't the Only Ones is a book about all the creatures /animals that lay eggs. From every bird to reptiles to amphibians, etc., this book talks about all that can lay eggs. It also has some nice illustrations showing what the eggs look like.

2. Grade level, interest level, lexile (1 pt)

This would be a good book for kindergarten to 2nd grade. It is super interesting and easy to read.

3. Appropriate classroom use (subject area) (1 pt)

I could use this book for the students when and if we talk about animals that lay eggs in the classroom. I could also use this book for students to silent read in the class.

4. Individual students who might benefit from reading (1 pt)

Students interested in animals and learning would like this book.

5. Small group use (literature circles) (1 pt)

I could use this book in small groups for students to practice reading fluency.

6. Whole class use (read aloud) (1 pt)

I could read this book to the class, but I would probably just have it on the shelf as a fun read.

7. Related books in genre/subject or content area (1 pt)

Hey, Little Ant by Phillip M. Hoose

Tops and Bottoms by Janet Stevens

8. Multimedia connections (audio books, movie) available (1 pt)

There are a few YouTube videos of people reading this book.

Aneesa says

Not to scale.

Arica says

Informative but not dry. Great illustrations too.

Jennifer says

We're discovering Ruth Heller this summer and really enjoying her works. This book in the World of Nature Series is about who lays eggs in the world of nature. The text is fun to read (the rhymes are so clever), the images are so vivid, it's no wonder I don't need to call twice to read her books.

Jasmine Stocker says

This book introduces readers to a remarkably diverse group of egg-laying animals and explains their unique

behavior. Shows eggs in every shape and size in brilliant detail along with the amazing animals that lay them. This book would be great for an informational lesson about animals and eggs. Also, if you were to do a lesson on baby chicks. It's great for those students who are developing cognitively.

Stephanie Snyder says

a great home bookshelf choice

Shoshanna says

Who says books you learn from can't be fun and beautiful? "Chickens Aren't the Only Ones" teaches kids (and adults!) all about all the egg laying animals there are, the eggs they lay, and how they lay them. Starting with the chicken eggs we see in grocery stores, the book expands to all different kinds of birds, reptiles, amphibians, sea creatures, bugs and even monotremes. The pages burst with bold, colorful illustrations that are quite detailed and accurate. Getting to see what a manta ray's egg looks like, or a moonsnail's eggs look like, is exciting. Readers also learn about the role the incipient fathers play in terms of helping with the eggs. There is no universal kind of egg and all the egg experiences are different. If your kid (or you) are interested in the diversity of animals out there, this is a fun and beautiful classic picture book to check out!
