

Eggs are eggcellent

Key Stage 2 | Language and Literacy



The Northern Ireland Curriculum

Language and Literacy

Reading

Pupils should be enabled to:

- use traditional and digital sources to locate, select, evaluate and communicate information relevant for a particular task, *for example, a classification system, a catalogue, list of contents and indices and the internet*;
- justify their responses logically, by inference, deduction and/or reference to evidence within the text, *for example, compare and contrast two characters in a story or history text*;

Success criteria

- I can identify and explain key facts about eggs.
- I can write a short non-fiction or creative piece about eggs using descriptive language.
- I can use a variety of sentence types, conjunctions, and interesting vocabulary.

Key vocabulary

Albumen, yolk, shell, embryo, nutrient, incubate, protein, reproduce, protect, develop, nourish, provide, contain

Resources needed

- Lesson presentation
- Egg fact or fiction comprehension sheets
- Writing support sheets

Prior learning

It would be helpful if children were familiar with a range of non-fiction texts and knew how to locate information within them. They would also need to understand the different types of descriptive language they are expected to use in this lesson such as, adjectives, similes and metaphors.

Time	Teaching activity	Teacher notes
10 mins	Using the Lesson Presentation , introduce the odd egg out activity on the slide. Explain to the children that you want them to look carefully at the three eggs and choose which one they think is the odd one out. Explain that there is no right or wrong answer, the important thing is that you want them to explain the reasons for their choice using descriptive language. Pupils can discuss in pairs or small groups, and you can then invite a few children to share their reasoning with the class.	<i>For lower attainers, provide a word bank of descriptive words they could use to describe. Alternatively, offer some sentence starters. To challenge higher attainers, encourage them to use complex sentences.</i>

Time	Teaching activity	Teacher notes
15 mins	Introduce the comprehension task to the children explaining that their task is to read the given text and retrieve information to answer the questions. Hand out the differentiated Egg Fact or Fiction Comprehension Sheets to the children.	<i>The texts are differentiated to support individual learners. For some children, it may be useful to pre-teach some of the scientific vocabulary or model how to find answers within the text using a highlighter or pointer. Lower attainers could also be paired with another child to support their reading.</i>
10 mins	Ask pupils to brainstorm adjectives and action words they can think of to describe eggs. Remind children of what similes and metaphors are, perhaps by asking a child to think of one and share with the class. Children could write their descriptive words on mini-whiteboards or in their books.	<i>Scaffold sentences for lower attainers by providing part of a sentence e.g. 'The egg is... because .' Challenge higher attainers to write complex sentences including conjunctions.</i>
20 mins	Explain the writing activity to the children. Tell them that they can choose between writing a non-fiction top 5 egg facts page or a diary entry from the perspective of an egg about to hatch. Provide children with the Writing Support Sheets to assist them.	<i>Challenge higher attainers by encouraging them to write extended paragraphs, multiple similes and use rich vocabulary.</i>
5 mins	Consolidate the learning by completing the eggcellent sharing activity. Ask pupils to share their favourite sentence, fact or descriptive phrase with a partner. If time, share some with the whole class. Highlight the excellent use of adjectives, similes and facts.	<i>You could make use of constructive feedback for the children here by commenting on one good thing in their writing, one thing that could be improved and praising the effort they have put in. If there is time, you could also make use of peer marking.</i>

Lesson reflections / next steps / teacher notes

Assessment opportunities

- Observe pupils' ability to use descriptive language and justify their opinions orally during the odd egg out activity.
- Assess pupils' understanding by checking how accurately they retrieve key information and explain vocabulary during the comprehension activity.
- Evaluate pupils' writing for effective use of descriptive vocabulary and sentence variety appropriate to their chosen task.

Suggestions for future learning

- Children could create an egg dictionary with all the descriptive and scientific vocabulary.
- The class could write egg-themed poetry using metaphors, similes and personification.
- There are many other lessons included on the egginfo site that could be taught as a follow-up.

Home learning opportunities

- Encourage children to look for and observe bird nests or eggs in their local environment and write descriptive notes.
- Children could create a fact file about eggs that are eaten around the world.