

# Comparing Life Cycles



twinkl



# Comparing Life Cycles

## Success Criteria

- Identify the stages of a bird's life cycle.
- Describe the similarities and differences between different plants' and animals' life cycles.

# What is an Egg?

All species of birds lay eggs.

If the eggs are fertilised, they will contain the bird embryo, which will develop inside the egg until it is ready to hatch.



# What is an Egg?

The chicken eggs that people eat are not fertilised, so they do not contain baby chickens. However, we can explore chicken eggs to find out more about them.

What parts of an egg can you name?

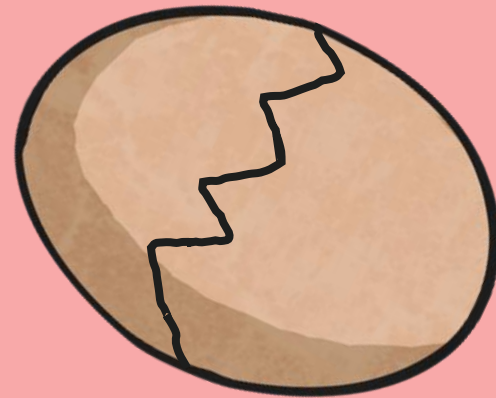


# What is an Egg?

Look closely at the outside of your egg. What is this part of the egg called? What is it for?



Now crack it open. What parts of the egg can you identify? What is their function?



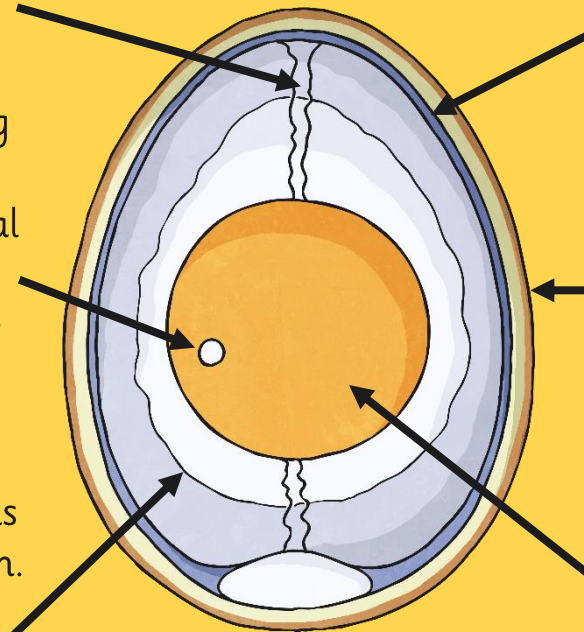
# Parts of an Egg

Can you identify all these parts in the egg you have cracked open?

**Chalaza** - Cords that keep the yolk in the centre.

**Germinal disc** - If an egg is fertilised, the sperm enter through the germinal disc and travel to the centre of the yolk, where an embryo is formed.

**Albumen** - The albumen is made of water and protein. It cushions the yolk and provides nutrition for a developing embryo.



**Shell membranes** - The inner and outer shell membranes separate to form the air cell.

**Shell** - Protects the inside of the egg. It contains thousands of small holes to allow air to move through the shell.

**Yolk** - Contains proteins and fats that provide the main source of nutrition for the embryo.

# Life Cycle of a Bird

The egg is a key stage in the life cycle of a bird. Can you put all the stages in order to show the life cycle?

The adults  
mate and  
reproduce.

The egg  
hatches, and  
the adults  
provide food  
for the chick.

A fertilised  
egg is laid  
by the  
female.

The young bird  
leaves the nest  
and continues  
to grow into an  
adult.

The chick  
grows and  
develops.



# Life Cycle of a Bird

The adults mate and reproduce.

A fertilised egg is laid by the female.

The egg hatches, and the adults provide food for the chick.

The young bird leaves the nest and continues to grow into an adult.

The chick grows and develops.

How did you do?



# Comparing Life Cycles

Different plants and animals all have different life cycles. Their life cycles share some similarities and have some differences between them.



Watch this clip to see which stages of the life cycles of living things you can spot.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zp62tfr>