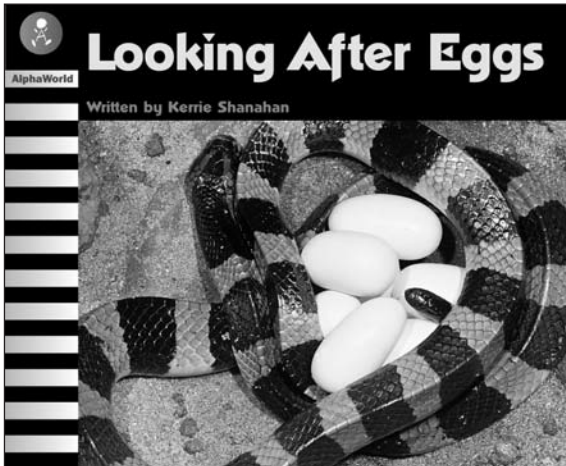


Looking After Eggs



Topic: Animal Kingdoms/Relationships

Curriculum link: Natural Science

Text type: Explanation

Reading level: 20

Word count: 880

Vocabulary: burrow, guard, larvae, laying, maggots, pouch, predators, stomach, survive, temperature, waterhole

Possible literacy focus:

- Understanding the structure of an explanation.
- Identifying verbs used in the text.

Follow-up activities

Developing prior knowledge of the topic

Ask the children to turn to the contents page.

What do you think this book will be about?

Now ask the children to think of statements that would fit under each of the headings on the contents page. Ask the children to share these statements and list them on the board.

After reading *Looking After Eggs*, add any additional facts from the text to the list and display this information in the classroom.

Text features – Contents page and Glossary

Ask children to locate the contents page and the glossary.

What are they for?

Why do we need them?

How do you use them?

Ask the children to locate different sections by using the contents page.

Where would I find information about fathers looking after eggs?

Understanding text structure: Explanation

Explore the structure of an explanation with the children. This type of text usually presents a general statement about the topic followed by specific information.

You could present this information as a summary chart like the one below.

General statement
Animals that lay eggs look after them in many different ways.
Laying eggs on food
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some animals lay their eggs on other animals. • When the eggs hatch, the larvae will have food instantly, e.g. fly, wasp.
Carrying eggs
•
etc.

Animal model

You will need:

small boxes, scraps of material, straws, pipe cleaners, crepe paper, cardboard cylinders, sticky tape, scissors, glue, paper, pencils

1. Make a model of an animal in *Looking After Eggs*.
2. Look carefully at the pictures in the book to make your model look realistic.
3. Write about how your animal looks after its eggs.
4. Carefully label your animal.
5. Share your work with the class and display it in the classroom.

Quiz show

You will need:

paper, pencils, felt pens

1. Work with a partner to design a quiz show about how animals look after their eggs.
2. Write questions about where they lay their eggs, how many eggs are laid, who looks after the eggs, etc.
3. Work out the rules. How many contestants will there be? How many questions will you ask?
4. Explain the rules to a few contestants from the class.
5. Play the quiz in your classroom.

Verbs

Verbs are words that tell us what someone or something is doing. For example: This snake **guards** her eggs.

Circle the verbs in this paragraph.

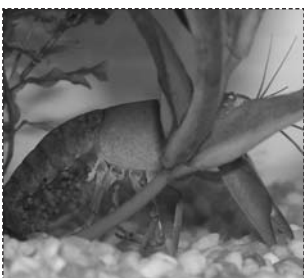
The female seahorse lays eggs in the pouch of the male seahorse. The male carries the eggs until they hatch. After about 20 days, the eggs hatch in the male seahorse's pouch. After they hatch, the babies stay in the pouch for another 10 days until they can look after themselves.

Now write a paragraph about how another animal looks after its eggs. Make sure that you include some verbs.

Instructions Discuss verbs with the children. Provide examples from the text for practice before they complete the BLM.

Looking After Eggs

Cut out these pictures. Sort them into groups. Label your groups.



Instructions Remind children to use *Looking After Eggs* as a resource for sorting the pictures. In this open-ended task, the children can group the pictures in a variety of ways.