

HASTINGS LAYS AN EGG

By - Jan Wells
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 Genre - Narrative
Set 15 - 252 Words

Building Anticipation – Setting the Context

Ask students if they know where the eggs they eat come from. Talk about different birds and animals that lay eggs, and why they lay eggs.



You may want to read *Chickens Aren't the Only Ones* by Ruth Heller to set the context for reading this book.

Introduction

Tell students the title of the book and invite them to guess what Hastings is. Show them the picture on the cover.

Ask the children to recall the earlier Porcupine book about Hastings, *Hastings (the Lucky Chicken)*, set 10. Talk about what they think chickens need in order to lay eggs.

Tell them to read the story and think about why it was special that Hastings laid an egg.

Give each student two or three sticky notes on which to record the things they wonder about as they read. Model the process by reading the first two or three pages and telling them what you wonder about.

You might start with: *I wonder why it was so special that Hastings laid an egg.* Suggest to students that if their questions are answered later in the text, they should mark their notes with a star.

Discussion – Book Talk

After reading, discuss the students' question notes and how they were answered later in the story.

Responding Creatively – Independent Practice

Children can:

- read stories about chickens. Read *The Little Red Hen* aloud and create a Venn diagram comparing the traditional story to this story about Hastings.
- retell the story of Hastings from the point of view of Hastings or one of the other chickens.
- make a comic strip of the story using the comic strip master.

Read Aloud Connections

- Chickens Aren't the Only Ones* by Ruth Heller, Paper Star, 1999.
Emma's Eggs by Margaret Ruurs, Stoddart, 1998.
The Little Red Hen - Help Yourself, Little Red Hen! by Alvin Granowsky, Raintree-Steck-Vaughn, 1996.
Three Barnyard Tales, by Marilyn Helmer, Kids Can Press, 2002.

Learning about Language – Focused Teaching

High Frequency Words	already, found	Find these words on the word wall or in books.
Word Families and Letter Clusters	<i>ck</i> digraph - chicken Words ending in the <i>ck</i> digraph	Make a web of <i>ck</i> words. Look in books for more <i>ck</i> words. Find words that end with <i>ck</i> . Make them with movable letters.
Structural Features of Words	<i>y</i> ending - lucky, happy, very	Look in other books to find five other words ending in <i>y</i> .

Comic Strip

