

# Egg Puppet

6 Ages

A variety of creatures lay eggs. Birds are hands down the egg masters. Bird eggs come in all sizes, shapes, colours and patterns. Even what appears to be a plain white egg can be boldly coloured when viewed under ultraviolet light. Birds see ultraviolet colours. Bird eggs combine function and form with beauty. The egg is truly one of nature's marvels.



LANTING/MINT IMAGES/SCIENCE SOURCE

## Make your own Egg Puppet with a marvellous little surprise.



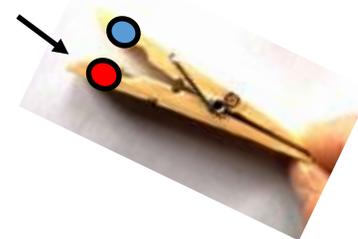
### Supplies:

- \* Egg and chick templates below
- \* Scissors, crayons or whatever you like to colour with
- \* Glue stick or school glue
- \* Spring clothes peg (or safety scissors in a pinch)

### Procedure:

- \* Use or trace an egg shape and chick from the templates on page 2.
- \* Colour the egg and chick, then cut them out. Cut your egg in half following the zigzag line.
- \* Carefully glue the bottom half of your egg to the side of the bottom arm of the clothes peg. ● Take care to match the zigzags, and glue the top of the egg to the side of the top arm. ● Glue your chick to bottom arm on the back side.

Glue chick back here



### TIP:

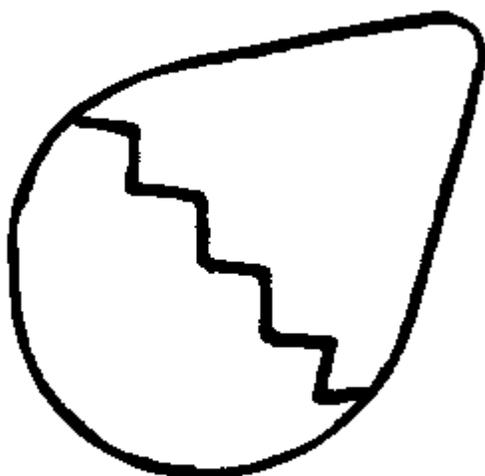
Discover more about amazing bird eggs at <https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/the-beauty-and-biology-of-egg-color/>

### No peg, using safety scissors?

Wrap a small elastic around one blade a few times so the scissors cannot close completely. Then attach the egg and chick as per the clothes peg instructions.



# Egg Templates



**Pointy** (pyriform, conical) eggs are a clever adaptation. Birds nesting in the open (on the ground, rock cliffs, or flat spaces), without a sturdy nest, lay pointy eggs. This shape rolls in a tight circle and cannot roll away.

These eggs are often well camouflaged using colours and markings. We give these marks, or patterns, all sorts of names: splotches, blotches, streaks, squiggles, spots, speckles, freckles, and scrawls.

The Killdeer, a local bird, lays pointy well camouflaged eggs on the ground.

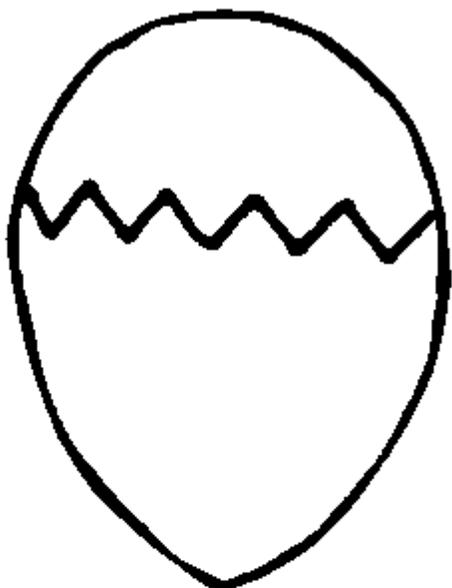
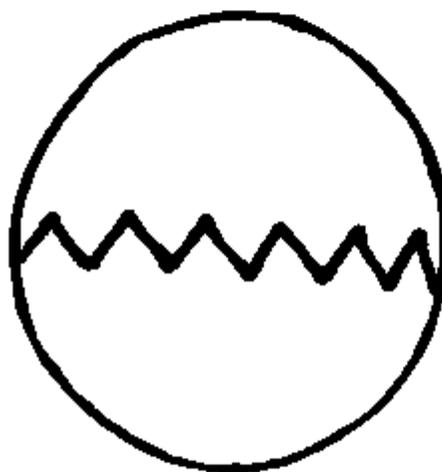
<https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Killdeer/overview>

**Round** (spherical) eggs are usually laid in cavities (hollows or holes in trees, nest boxes and so on) where rolling away is not a concern.

These eggs are usually plain white. They are hidden from sight, requiring less camouflage.

The Eastern Screech Owl, a nearby bird, lays rounded eggs in cavities.

[https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Eastern\\_Screech-Owl/id](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Eastern_Screech-Owl/id)



**Egg-shaped** (ovoid) eggs are most common. The shape ensures the egg will sit with the big round end tipped upwards. This is important as the chick's head (the eyes and brain) develop at the big end of the egg. Air (oxygen) passes through the shell best at the big end. Tipping the egg improves oxygen flow to the chick.



Glue here

**Chick Template**

The American Robin's egg-shaped egg is so beautiful we named a colour after it, Robin's-egg blue!

[https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/American\\_Robin/overview](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/American_Robin/overview)