

Session title	Nests, eggs and baby birds	
Key Q	What do eggs and young birds need to survive?	
Session description	Join us and discover, through a series of games and interactive sensory challenges, the life cycle of a young duckling from the egg to hatching and beyond. Discover how they develop and how the parent birds look after them.	
Key Stage suitability	KS1	
Duration	1 hour	
Resources required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Basket with male and female mallard cuddly toys and plastic ducklings. 	

Curriculum links	<p>KS1: The World Around Us</p> <p>Independence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How plants and animals rely on each other within the natural world ▪ The effect of people on the natural environment over time ▪ Interdependence of people, plants, animals and place. <p>Place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How place influences plant and animal life ▪ Ways in which living things depend on and adapt to their environment <p>Movement and energy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How and why people and animals move <p>Change over time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ways in which change occurs in the natural world 	
Learning outcomes	<p>All learners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Will be able to identify basic early lifecycle of birds to include nesting, eggs, adult care and ducks. ▪ Will be able to identify nest building as a function of bird reproduction. ▪ Will understand relationship of male and female ducks and rearing of young ducklings. 	<p>More able learners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Will be able to describe the various types of nesting techniques i.e. ground nesting and tree nesting. ▪ Will be able to explain the adaptations of basic bird behaviour, camouflage, display, and predation.
WWT conservation messages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wetlands are amazing: Wetland habitats are key to the survival of wetland birds and a host of other wildlife too. ▪ Wetlands are threatened: Wetlands and wetland wildlife are under pressure from habitat loss, over hunting and climate change. ▪ WWT is saving wetlands: WWT is providing ideal habitat for birds to nest and where baby birds can grow up ▪ You can help save wetlands too: In supporting the work of WWT you are helping us protect both wetlands and the wildlife that live in them. 	
Learning / enquiry skills developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Predict e.g. the conditions required for the survival of young birds. ▪ Investigate the early lifecycle of baby birds. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Observe e.g. the elements of this cycle. ▪ Compare / contrast e.g. ducks with other types of birds. ▪ Interpret e.g. the requirements of fledging survival. ▪ Appreciate the maternal/paternal aspects of passing on genes successfully. ▪ Explain e.g. the dynamics of the early development stages of fledglings. ▪ Report e.g. on what they have learned throughout. 		
Key vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nest building. ▪ Incubation. ▪ Fledgling. ▪ Egg. ▪ Egg tooth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Duckling. ▪ Male. ▪ Female. ▪ Camouflage ▪ Predator. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Insulation ▪ Life-cycle ▪ Behaviour ▪ Feathers ▪ Mallard

Session Outline - Nest building challenge	Time
Introduction	5 mins
Learners are given a brief introduction to the nest building challenge.	
Activity 1: Nest building challenge.	15 mins
Class is split into two teams and follow a series of instructions to build their nests.	
Activity 2: Nest inspection.	10 mins
Guide inspects nests, teasing out initial concepts and judging nests for the winning team to be announced.	

Session Outline - Duckling hunt	Time
Introduction	5 mins
Learners are given an introduction to the duckling hunt and the class is split into two teams.	
Activity 1: Duckling hunt story.	10 mins
Using the basket and props, the guide tells the story of the mallard family.	
Activity 2: Duckling hunt game.	15 mins
Teams have to hide, and hunt for, ducklings.	