



# First an Egg: Animals that Hatch from Eggs



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# Emus



[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Emu#mediaviewer/File:Emu\\_-\\_melbourne\\_zoo.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Emu#mediaviewer/File:Emu_-_melbourne_zoo.jpg)



[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Emu#mediaviewer/File:Emu\\_Egg.JPG](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Emu#mediaviewer/File:Emu_Egg.JPG)

Emus hatch from eggs that are emerald green in color. When an emu hatches, it has wings and feathers. However, an emu will never fly. That's why it's called a flightless bird.

An emu is a large bird. It can be up to six feet and six inches in height. Emus have long thin necks and legs.

Emus sometimes sit on water and are able to swim. They feed on a variety of plants and insects.

Emus are curious animals. Sometimes they watch and follow other animals and people.

**Have you ever seen an emu? Where did you see it?**

# Alligators



[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Alligator\\_mississippiensis#mediaviewer/File:American\\_Alligator.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Alligator_mississippiensis#mediaviewer/File:American_Alligator.jpg)  
[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Alligator\\_mississippiensis#mediaviewer/File:Alligator\\_Baby.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Alligator_mississippiensis#mediaviewer/File:Alligator_Baby.jpg)

Alligators hatch from eggs that are tough and leathery. A baby alligator has an egg tooth that helps it get out of the egg during hatching time. Alligators hatch with yellow stripes and needle-sharp teeth.

Ponds, marshes, rivers, lakes and swamps are the homes for alligators. Alligators are good swimmers. They have flat tails with strong muscles that propel them while swimming.

Alligators feed on fish, turtles, snakes and small animals.

**Have you ever seen an alligator? Where did you see it?**

# Penguins



[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Spheniscidae#mediaviewer/File:Falkland Islands Penguins 35.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Spheniscidae#mediaviewer/File:Falkland_Islands_Penguins_35.jpg)  
[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Spheniscidae#mediaviewer/File:Eudyptula minor molting.JPG](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Spheniscidae#mediaviewer/File:Eudyptula_minor_molting.JPG)

Penguins hatch from eggs. They hatch with fuzzy feathers. Like emus, penguins can't fly. They are flightless birds.

The wings of penguins are flippers. Penguins either waddle on their feet or slide on their bellies across the snow. They can jump with both feet together.

Penguins spend half their life on land and half in oceans. They feed on fish, squid and other forms of sea life.

**Have you ever seen a penguin? Where did you see it?**

# Butterflies



[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Butterfly#mediaviewer/File:Citrus\\_Swallowtail\\_Papilio\\_demodocus.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Butterfly#mediaviewer/File:Citrus_Swallowtail_Papilio_demodocus.jpg)



[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Butterfly#mediaviewer/File:Pieris\\_brassicae\\_06.JPG](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Butterfly#mediaviewer/File:Pieris_brassicae_06.JPG)

Butterfly eggs are laid on leaves of a plant. The egg becomes a caterpillar, then a chrysalis and finally a butterfly.

When the butterfly emerges from the chrysalis, it has four wings. These wings have to dry for three to four hours before the butterfly can fly. Adult butterflies have large brightly colored wings.

Butterflies fly from flower to flower. They are feeding on the nectar from these flowers.

**Have you ever seen a butterfly? Where did you see it?**

# Platypuses



[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Ornithorhynchus\\_anatinus#mediaviewer/File:Platypus.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Ornithorhynchus_anatinus#mediaviewer/File:Platypus.jpg)

Platypuses hatch from eggs. A platypus baby is about the size of a lima bean. Newly hatched platypuses are blind and have no hair. They grow thick, dark fur which covers their body and tail. The fur keeps them warm.

Platypuses are strange looking creatures. They have a bill like a duck, a broad, flat tail like a beaver and feet like an otter.

The legs of a platypus are on the side of the body, rather than underneath. A platypus is an excellent swimmer and spends much time in the water looking for food.

**Have you ever seen a platypus? Where did you see it?**

# Snakes



[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Crotalus#mediaviewer/File:Crotalus\\_ruber\\_02.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Crotalus#mediaviewer/File:Crotalus_ruber_02.jpg)



[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Corn\\_Snake\\_eggs.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Corn_Snake_eggs.jpg)

Snakes hatch from eggs. Their skin is covered in scales. Even when they are sleeping, their eyes are always open.

Snakes shed their skin. This is called molting. There is a new skin beneath the old skin. Young snakes may shed four times a year. Older snakes may shed only once a year.

Snakes eat a variety of things. They eat small animals such as lizards and frogs. They eat birds, eggs, fish, snails and insects.

**Have you ever seen a snake? Where did you see it?**

# Turtles



[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Turtle#mediaviewer/File:Turtle\\_in\\_pond.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Turtle#mediaviewer/File:Turtle_in_pond.jpg)



[http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/3b/Snapping\\_turtle\\_eggs\\_md.jpg](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/3b/Snapping_turtle_eggs_md.jpg)

Turtles hatch from eggs. The eggs are deposited in holes dug into mud or sand then covered. When turtles hatch they head toward the water. The mother doesn't take care of her young.

The body of a turtle is covered with a shell. This shell causes the turtle to move slowly.

Turtles live on both land and underneath the water. Sometimes you can see the head of a turtle when it's in the water. Turtles eat water plants, insects, snails and worms.

**Have you ever seen a turtle? Where did you see it?**

# Plovers



[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Charadrius#mediaviewer/File:Tame\\_bird\\_\(815089498\).jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Charadrius#mediaviewer/File:Tame_bird_(815089498).jpg)



[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Charadrius\\_eggs#mediaviewer/File:P7041541Charadrius\\_hiaticula\\_5\\_eggs.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Charadrius_eggs#mediaviewer/File:P7041541Charadrius_hiaticula_5_eggs.jpg)

Plovers hatch from eggs. The eggs are speckled or spotted. They are laid in a nest that is a slight hollow in the ground.

Plovers are often found along beaches or shorelines. They are sometimes called wading birds or shorebirds.

Plovers have long wings and longish legs. They have short necks and a straight, short bill. They feed mostly on insects and worms.

**Have you ever seen a plover? Where have you seen it?**