

Okay kiddo! Let's learn about hens and their eggs!

A hen is a type of bird, and just like how you need food to grow, hens also need food! When a hen is healthy and has eaten enough, she can start to lay eggs. This means she will make a round, smooth egg that is usually white or brown.

Now, let's imagine a big cozy nest where the hen lays her eggs. She usually lays one egg every day. Once she has a few eggs, she wants to keep them warm. So, she sits on them. This is called **nesting**.

Inside the eggs, something very special is happening! If there's a rooster (a male chicken) around, the eggs can grow baby chicks inside! This takes about three weeks, so the hen will sit on her eggs for a long time!

While she's sitting on the eggs, she keeps them warm and safe, like how a blanket keeps you warm at night. After about 21 days, if the eggs are ready, the little chicks will start to peck their way out of the shell. This is called **hatching**.

When the chicks hatch, they are very little and wet, but after a while, they dry off and start to chirp. The hen is very happy because she has new little chicks to take care of!

And that's how a hen lays eggs and how baby chicks hatch!