

OUR SEASONAL THEMES & PLANS
(HOW WE DO NATURE-BASED LEARNING AT HOME)

This Week: April 6th - April 12th
Theme: "Quiet Eggs & Noisy Nests"

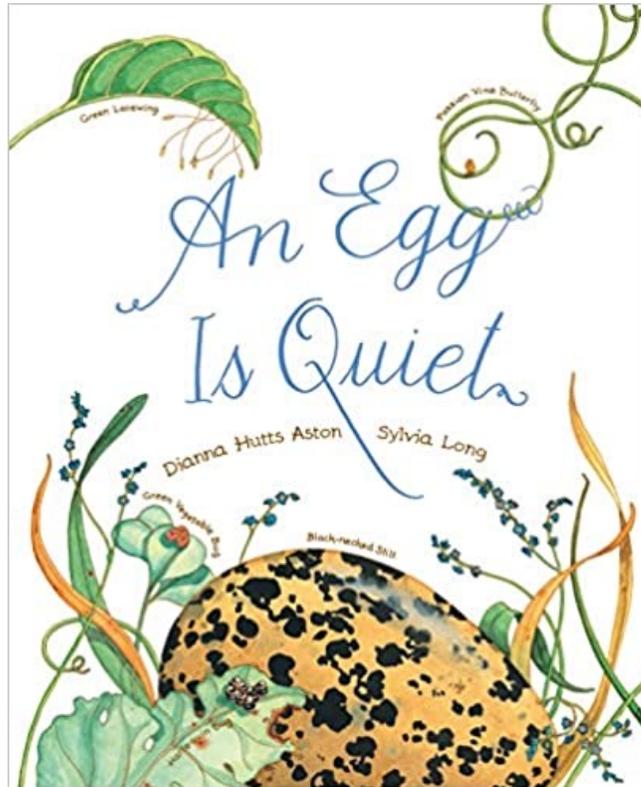


Events of Note this Week:
Holy Week, Full Pink Moon, Passover, Easter Sunday

Thoughts on Our Theme (Nature Story Prompt):

The woods are alive with the sounds of nesting season! Even before the calendar tells us it's spring, the birds and beasts all around us know exactly what's afoot! In late winter even, we can detect a subtle change in bird song, as the light gets a little stronger and the air gets a little warmer every day. Our backyard hens shake off their winter doldrums and set about laying eggs once again. Indeed, the holiest week of the year is a perfect time to investigate and celebrate the theme of new life returning to the land!

Our Seasonal Storybooks:



An Egg is Quiet , A Nest is Noisy, The Easter Egg, Rechenka's Eggs, Birds, Nests & Eggs, A Nest Full of Eggs, Bird Nests, Nests, Eggs, Birds: An Illustrated Aviary

A Proposed Outing:

A nest walk on an early spring day, when the treetops are still bare. Try to spy leafy nests (birds) and dreys (squirrels). A teacher at our local Audubon society told us that nests found close to the tree trunk are winter nests while those built further out on a branch are “summer homes.”





Crafts & Activities:

Relate the idea of a quiet still egg with the season of Lent ... and a noisy nest with the rejoicing of new life at Easter.

Discuss: what kinds of animals lay eggs? Research different types of nests and the animals that make them.

Brainstorm ways to cook and eat eggs. Do an egg survey among family and friends. Plan a special egg-centric dinner.

If possible, get eggs from a local coop and compare them (appearance, taste) to store-bought eggs.

Visit a backyard coop - or perhaps investigate starting one of your own!

Discuss: what would make your own perfect nest? Let the kids use materials they find throughout the house/yard to build their own nests.

Use an empty suet cage to make a nesting material station for the birds in your backyard.

Color eggs for Easter! Try your hand at making your own natural dyes.

(Please see my "Quiet Eggs & Noisy Nests" Pinterest Board for further information and ideas. I'll be adding more in the weeks to come!)

Seasonal Food:

egg dishes (egg salad, quiche, deviled eggs, custard, meringue), Easter brunch or dinner



A Seasonal Verse:

"May the glad dawn

Of Easter morn

Bring holy joy to thee ...

May the calm eve

Of Easter leave

A peace divine with Thee!"

(Anonymous)



Cheers till next time, my friends!
~ Dawn

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