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## Themed Activities: Estimating Eggs



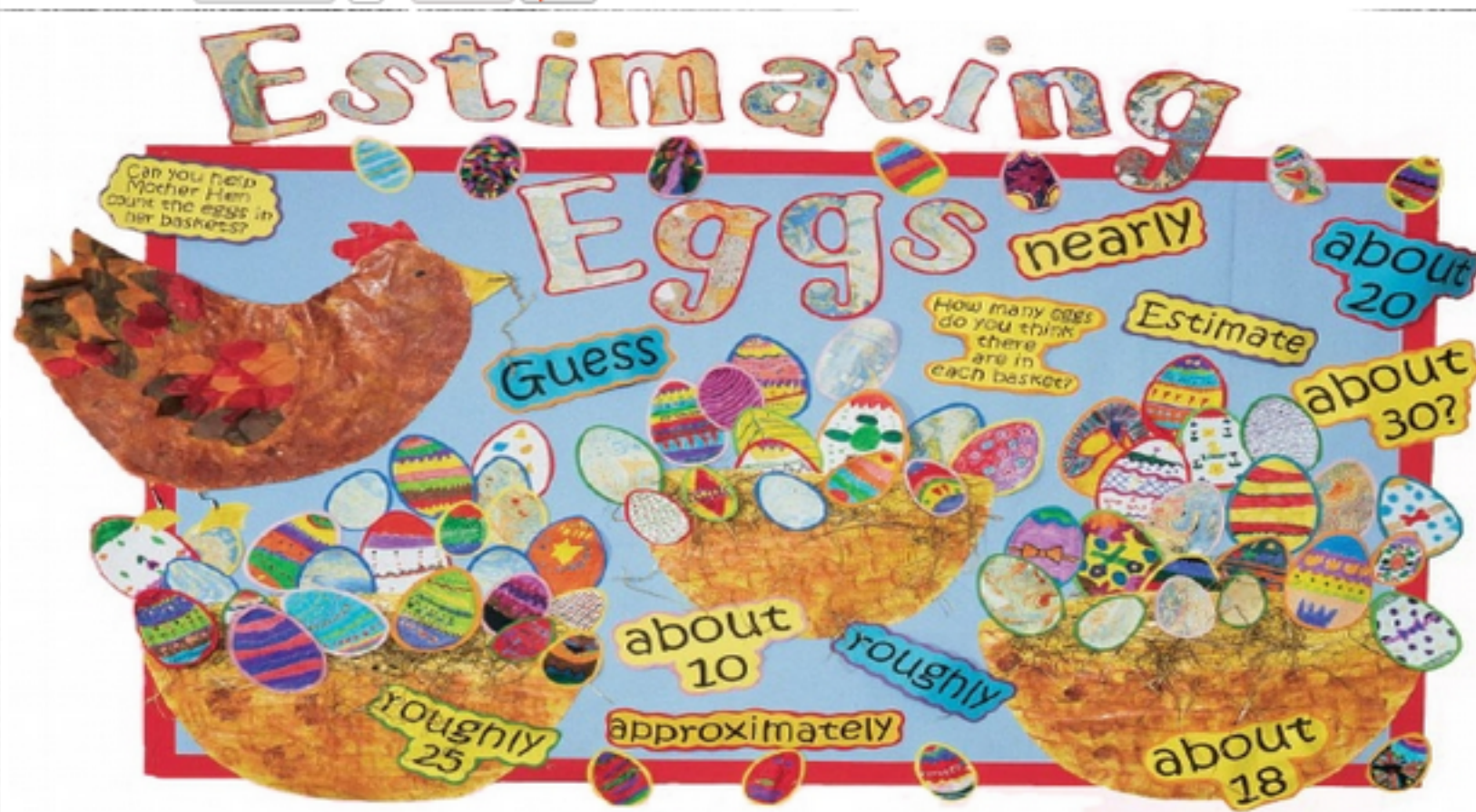
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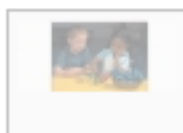
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Ask children to estimate how many eggs Mother Hen has laid



### Learning Objective

To practise estimating a number of objects.

### Starting Points

- In a role as Mother Hen, explain to the class that you have forgotten how many eggs you have laid. Place a number of balls in a basket and ask the class to estimate how many eggs there are.
- Now show seven different sized baskets – one for every day of the week. Challenge the children to estimate how many eggs Mother Hen (you) will have to lay to fill each basket.
- Ask the children to sit in a circle. Give each child a number card from 1 to 30. Place a selection of 'eggs' in the middle of the circle. Ask the children to estimate the number of eggs and to stand up if they think that they have the correct card. Count the eggs to see who is correct.

### Make

- Use paint and paper collage to make a giant hen for the display.
- Use papier-mâché to make giant eggs. Paint a colourful design on each one.
- Employ marbling techniques to create patterns on egg-shaped paper.
- Decorate hard-boiled eggs using poster paints.
- Collect a set of baskets or use recyclable material to make baskets to carry the eggs.
- Collect a set of egg cups or make ones from clay.
- Gather together a set of 20-30 balls.

### Activities

- Play 'Eggs in the Egg Cups'. Place a number of egg cups on the table, say eight, and put a basket of ten eggs (balls) on the table. Ask children to estimate if there are enough egg cups for each egg. Are there too many or too few? Vary the numbers according to the ability of the children.
- Play 'Estimating Eggs'. Make a set of large eggs with spots on (using numbers up to 20) and provide a number line. Ask the children to pick an egg and estimate how many spots it has. Give pupils a 0 to 20 number line and ask them to record their estimate on it. The children count the spots and record the actual number of spots before finding the difference between the estimate and the actual number.
- Make a spinner with multiples of 10 on it, and have ready a set of spotted egg-shaped cards – the number of spots varying between 5 and 100. The children take it in turns to spin the spinner. They estimate which egg card has the number of spots nearest to the number on the spinner. They pick up the card and count the spots. The children in the group discuss and decide if it was a near estimate.

### Develop and Extend

**ART:** Make the clay egg cups in a chicken shape. Divide the clay for one child into three balls. Use one ball for a simple thumb pot to hold an egg, one ball for the chickens head moulded to the front and one ball for the chicken's tail joined to the back. Stick a few small colourful feathers into the clay part of the tail. Allow to dry and harden and then paint. Add your decorated hard-boiled eggs.



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Adapted from:



**Belair On Display - Hands on Numeracy Ages 5 – 7**

Estimating Eggs



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