

Mommy Laid An Egg: Or, Where Do Babies Come From?

By Babette Cole



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In this hilarious twist on one of the most difficult discussions in a child's development, award winning author Babette Cole illustrates the one question all children are bound to ask: Where do babies come from? Mom explains that you can make babies out of gingerbread, grow them from seeds, or squeeze them out of tubes, while Dad says you can find babies under rocks. Amused by their parents' silly answers, the children decide to set the adults straight. In a series of zany diagrams, the children show the adults exactly where babies come from. The offbeat illustrations are accompanied by a text that is short, simple, and anything but predictable. This is a funny book that will delight, entertain, and educate the entire family.

Awards and honors for *Mommy Laid An Egg*:

LA Parent Book Award

Publishers Weekly, starred review



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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Cole (*Supermoo*) unleashes her endearingly loony sense of humor on the subject of the birds and the bees, and the result is, as expected, hilarious. When a thoroughly befuddled set of '90s parents (he wears his gray hair in a ponytail, she wears Birkenstocks) decides to inform their offspring how babies are made, their explanations (babies are grown from seeds, made out of gingerbread, squeezed from tubes like toothpaste, brought by dinosaurs) are greeted with an explosion of giggles. Their children quickly grab paper and pen and proceed to set the record straight. Cole's drawings and simple text are candid without being offensive and, without getting terribly complicated or serious, communicate the essentials of conception and childbirth in a direct but light-hearted manner that will leave everyone grinning and no one embarrassed. As always, Cole's idiosyncratic, cartoon-style illustrations are a treat--and her renditions of greenhouse babies and baby-paste tubes are outrageously funny. All ages.

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From School Library Journal

PreSchool-Grade 2-Someone laid an egg here, but it wasn't Mommy. What begins as an amusing premise gets waylaid along the way. Mom and Dad offer their kids twists on the old clichés about the birds and the bees. The children are wildly amused, and decide to teach their parents the facts of life, illustrated with their own crayon drawings. In the explanation, Mothers have eggs inside their bodies, while daddies have "seeds in seed pods outside their bodies. Daddies also have a tube. The seeds come out of the pods and through the tube. The tube goes into the mommy's body through a hole." On a double-page spread, a line is drawn from Dad's penis to an opening in Mom, labeled "This fits in here." On the next page readers are shown some ways moms and dads fit together, copulating on a skateboard, hanging from balloons, etc. The "crayon" drawings are crude, but everyone gets the picture. Fertilization and birth follow. The cartoon characters and watercolored line drawings are vibrant and amusing--dad's gray hair is in a ponytail, while mom is a blonde earth-mother type. The kids are messy replicas of their parents. Joanna Cole's *How You Were Born* (Morrow, 1993) still sets the standard; this effort doesn't measure up.

Denise L. Moll, Lone Pine Elementary School, West Bloomfield, MI

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From Kirkus Reviews

The full facts about human reproduction, ingeniously set in a story about parents who are offering their son and daughter some whimsical explanations--"You were delivered by a dinosaur" or "Sometimes you just find them under stones"--while the humor of these possibilities is dramatized in Cole's vibrant, cartoony illustrations. After Mom avers, "You can grow them from seeds...Or just squeeze them out of tubes!" and Dad chimes "Mommy laid an egg," the kids take the discussion in hand. Laughing off the nonsense and remarking that "You were right about the SEEDS, the TUBE, and the EGG," they describe what really happens, illustrating with explicit kindergarten-style drawings--a remarkably innovative way to offer diagrams that are clear without being uncomfortably detailed; there are even four "ways mommies and daddies fit together," their faces expressing engagingly childlike glee. The lesson continues until "out pops the baby." "So now YOU know," conclude the sensible tots to their wide-eyed parents (whose cheeks have gone much pinker, the only suggestion that this could be embarrassing), "...and so does everyone else," as they open the door to a slew of animals and their young. For those who choose to share these specifics with young children, a notably fresh, matter-of-fact approach. (Picture book. 4-8) -- *Copyright ©1993, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Angela Gagne:

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to ready your time to do the important act, like looking for your favorite guide and reading a book. Beside you can solve your trouble; you can add your knowledge by the e-book entitled Mommy Laid An Egg: Or, Where Do Babies Come From?. Try to face the book Mommy Laid An Egg: Or, Where Do Babies Come From? as your pal. It means that it can to become your friend when you sense alone and beside associated with course make you smarter than before. Yeah, it is very fortunated in your case. The book makes you more confidence because you can know every thing by the book. So , we should make new experience in addition to knowledge with this book.

Cecil Atkins:

Reading a publication tends to be new life style with this era globalization. With examining you can get a lot of information that can give you benefit in your life. Along with book everyone in this world can share their idea. Guides can also inspire a lot of people. A lot of author can inspire their particular reader with their story or their experience. Not only the storyplot that share in the publications. But also they write about the data about something that you need case in point. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach children, there are many kinds of book that you can get now. The authors these days always try to improve their skill in writing, they also doing some investigation before they write to the book. One of them is this Mommy Laid An Egg: Or, Where Do Babies Come From?.

Richard Ma:

Mommy Laid An Egg: Or, Where Do Babies Come From? can be one of your starter books that are good idea. Many of us recommend that straight away because this reserve has good vocabulary that could increase your knowledge in vocab, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The author giving his/her effort to put every word into enjoyment arrangement in writing Mommy Laid An Egg: Or, Where Do Babies Come From? yet doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest and based confirm resource data that maybe you can be one among it. This great information can certainly drawn you into completely new stage of crucial imagining.

Francisco London:

What is your hobby? Have you heard in which question when you got students? We believe that that concern was given by teacher for their students. Many kinds of hobby, All people has different hobby. And you know that little person such as reading or as examining become their hobby. You need to know that reading is very important and also book as to be the thing. Book is important thing to provide you knowledge, except your own personal teacher or lecturer. You see good news or update with regards to something by book. Many kinds of books that can you go onto be your object. One of them is niagra Mommy Laid An Egg: Or, Where Do Babies Come From?.

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