



Family Activities

Title: **Rechenka's Eggs**

Author: **Patricia Polacco**

Illustrator: **Patricia Polacco**

An injured goose rescued by Babushka, having broken the painted eggs intended for the Easter Festival in Moskva, lays thirteen marvelously colored eggs to replace them. She then leaves behind one final miracle — in egg form — before returning to her own kind. The author, Patricia Polacco, demonstrates the traditional Ukrainian egg-painting art (pysanky) and shares how she got the idea for this story. Viewers will gain a new appreciation for the egg in art as LeVar decorates eggs and finds objects that are egg-shaped. Viewers also see the practical side during a montage of animal babies emerging from eggs.

Here are several activities you and your child can do together after watching this episode.

Glistening Eggs

Mix sweetened condensed milk and food coloring to create several colors of “paint.” Paint this mixture onto giant eggs cut from 12 by 18 inch sheets of construction paper. When dry these eggs may be displayed together for a beautiful, glistening effect.

Artful Option: Find a large branch and put it in a pot full of soil. Then punch a hole at the top of each glistening egg you have made and tie a piece of yarn to hang on the branch. Now, enjoy your glistening egg tree!

Prehistoric Eggs

You will need:

- eggs
- saucepan
- food coloring
- bowl
- metal spoon
- lettuce

Directions:

1. Put the eggs in a saucepan filled with cool water and place on the stove.
2. Bring the eggs to a boil over medium heat, turn down the heat, and gently simmer the eggs for 8 to 10 minutes. Remove the pan from the heat.
3. Fill a bowl with cool water, add several drops of food coloring, and mix. (Use a different bowl for each color).



Family Activities

Title: **Rechenka's Eggs**

Author: **Patricia Polacco**

Illustrator: **Patricia Polacco**

4. Carefully crack the shells of each egg all over with the back of a spoon. Do not peel the eggshells yet.
5. Place the eggs in the colored water until cool.
6. Take the eggs out of the water with the spoon. Peel the cracked eggs. The eggs will have a mottled look where food coloring seeped through the cracks. Put shredded lettuce in a serving bowl to look like grass and put the “prehistoric eggs” on the lettuce to serve.

Visit Your Community Library

Here is a book you can check out on your next trip to the library:

The Talking Eggs by Robert D. San Souci