Take It Outside: Spring
STEM: Nests for Eggs

Introduction
In the story of 'Brenda's Boring Egg', we see duckling eggs that are ready to hatch. This activity helps children design and build nests for the eggs of different birds.

You will need:
- an outdoor space;
- **'Brenda's Boring Eggs' (a Twinkl Original);**
- natural materials such as twigs, leaves, bark, moss and earth that could be used to build a nest;
- weights – you need 50g, 70g, 150g and 2kg so you may wish to make up the 70g and 150g in bags if your class would struggle with making these weights themselves.

Key Questions
- How could we make a good nest?
- Will a heavier egg need a different nest?

What to do:
1. Before you go outside, read 'Brenda's Boring Egg'.
2. Ask the children what animals lay eggs. Do they think all eggs are the same size?
3. Explain that some eggs are heavier than others. A hen egg weighs 50g, a duck egg weighs 70g, a goose egg weighs 150g and an ostrich egg weighs 2kg. You may wish to pass these weights around so the children get a good idea about what these weights are.
4. Explain to the children that they are going to be building nests for different eggs. Talk about the purpose and function of a nest. You may wish to show pictures of nests from the Internet. Then it's time to take it outside!
5. In groups, children use natural materials to create a nest.
6. When the groups have finished creating their nest, they should test it by putting 50g in it, the weight of a hen egg. If the nest remains intact, they should try the other weights. If the nest breaks, they should make some improvements to the nest.

Ways to Support

Some children who have fine motor skills problems may need extra support manipulating the materials.

Ways to Extend

Children will be able to create the different weights using 10g weights. They could produce a written evaluation of their nest.

Curriculum Links

Select from and use a wide range of materials and components, including construction materials, textiles and ingredients, according to their characteristics.